Dr. A. G. Menon.—After passing, all works may be entrusted to the P. W. D. We have no objection.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Transfer the allotment passed here and they will carry out that work.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—What is the object in discussing?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We are not running away from here when Anappara is discussed.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We have no time to discuss the Public Works proper. We have not that advantage.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Then two days may be given.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That may be considered. We throw out those suggestions. We shall commence work.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It can best be done by putting irrigation under buildings. Now we have communications, buildings and then irrigation. Instead of that by a rearrangement of items the demands could be altered. For giving prominent attention to irrigation, put those items first.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I mentioned only one instance. We want P. W. D. proper as one head. Those subjects will be discussed well, and for the other we will have no time.

President.—Because it is too big a subject, too big a demand, one day is not enough for that purpose. That is the gist of the whole thing. If you have two days, perhaps you may do justice to the work. Unfortunately under the Regulation one demand has to be finished in one day. The best way would be to adopt the Land Revenue Member's suggestion.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—We have 45 demands. Suppose Education is also added. How can we do full justice?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Anyhow these matters may be considered.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—And the Finance Committee may consider.

Voting of Demands for Grants.

7. VI—Excise-Rs. 2,88,375.

President.—The next item is Voting of Demands for Grants. We have come up to 'Excise'.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 2,88,375 under 'VI-Excise' for the year 1105. When compared with the demand voted by the House for the current year, an increase of Rs. 3,561 could be observed. The general raising of the pay of all menials to Rs. 10, coupled with a slight increase on account of increments in the temporary establishments and the grant of a duty allowance of Re. 1 for a peon in each of the

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Taluk Offices for opium and ganja work, has caused an increase in the expenditure to the extent of about Rs. 1,600 under 'Establishment'. Under 'Supplies and services' Rs. 350 more is provided to meet the cooly charges in connection with the issue of salt. There has been a gradual increase in the consumption of salt in the current year which is not expected to go down in the next. The purchase of a new platform weighing machine and the proposed shifting of the Narakkal Fish-Curing Yard nearer to the coast to facilitate the curing of catches of fish may cost the Sirkar about Rs. 1,100. The expenses under 'Travelling Allowance' for the getting down of ganja by the Department itself and for distribution of drugs from the Central Stores to the several treasuries along with the entertainment of the special party to meet exigencies, make the amount usually allotted under 'T. A.' quite inadequate, and in accordance with the revised estimate the travelling allowance figure is put as Rs. 8,000 instead of Rs. 7,500 as budgetted for the current year.

Besides the above, there are no items calling for special remarks. The several heads of expenditure remain the same for the coming year also.

The Excise policy of the Government has been stated more than once in this House. I find that a detailed explanation of the same was given by my predecessor in his budget speech last year. I do not, therefore, propose to weary the Hon'ble Members with a repetition of the same over again. We are all agreed that our ultimate goal is prohibition. The difference of opinion is only with regard to the methods to be adopted for reaching that goal and also as to the time within which the goal should be reached. While the Hon'ble Members on the non-official side would like to have the drink evil eradicated all at once by resorting to legislation or some other equally drastic method, we, on this side of the House, say that we should proceed cautiously lest the remedy we propose be worse than the disease. The drink evil is not a creation of yesterday or to-day. It has been in existence for centuries past, if not from the beginning of the world itself. It is said that this evil was rampant in China 4000 years ago, i. e., 2000 years before Christ ; so much so the then Emperor of China passed an edict for bidding drink under penalty of death. It has been proved beyond doubt that in the ancient Hindu period spirits and other intoxicating drinks were extensively used at all times and by all classes. The art of distillation was known and widely practised then. It is said that 12 kinds of liquor were in use then besides the Soma beer. In Kautilya's time, B. C. 321 to 296, it seems there was even a Superintendent of Excise Revenue as we have to-day engaged

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in collecting revenue, and granting special licenses, a procedure so vehemently condemned to-day.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What was he paid, please?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—If we turn to the Old Testament, we find that in the days of Abraham and Moses people were making free use of wine, and yet it is said that in these days people lived up to more than 100 years of age. Coming down to the Mohamadan period we find the same story repeated and people indulging in liquor though the Quran forbids drinking. It will thus be seen that the drink habit is a very deep-rooted evil, and it is not easy to eradicate such an evil all at once. I have already stated that 4000 years ago, the Emperor of China passed an edict forbidding the use of intoxicating liquors. Successive Emperors and Law-givers not only of China, but of almost all other countries, have been promulgating laws and resorting to other means to put a stop to the drink evil, but as our sad experience shows the evil is still as rampant to-day as ever before. The Hon'ble Members may no doubt point to the United States of America and say that there at least the forward Excise policy of the Government has succeeded in stamping out the evil. But as to the present state of America opinions widely differ. After the vivid description given the other day by the Hon'ble Member for Public Works, an eye-witness, of the present working of the prohibition law in America, need I say much to convince this House that the 18th amendment has been a dismal failure? President Hoover in his inaugural address in a way admitted that the law has not been quite a success till now. He said that crimes have increased, people have lost respect for law, and that it has become difficult to obtain convictions for offences against the law because of the sympathy of the people towards the law-breakers. No doubt he promised he would take vigorous steps and bring the boot-leggers to their senses. But the moment he made an attempt in that direction, trouble arose. There was uneasiness in other countries, notes passed and it was even feared that international complications might ensue as the 'I'm Alone' episode clearly proves. President Hoover, it is said, had to make an announcement that he was not going to sanction any drastic raids in future. The latest adventure seems to be to put up a barbed wire fencing across the frontier to prevent liquor trickling through Canada. It has been subsequently reported that America has no such idea. I am referring to this only to show to what extent America is driven to prop up a piece of legislation not wanted at least by a large section of the people. The Hon'ble Members will not accuse Mrs. Sarojini Naidu of any anti-prohibition tendencies. What

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does she say about the present state of America after her recent experiences there? She says: "Rich men do not honour the prohibition law. Each monied man carries a flask in his pocket and he has a number of pockets too. But the working class is immensely benefited. They obey the law and they are happy." If that be the state of things, can we say that America is dry? The only thing required is money, and if you have it, you can have a drink in America almost as freely as you can have it in India. If America, with an enlightened public, with all her resources, with her fleet of motor launches, and army of preventive officers, could not enforce prohibition after strenuously working for it for nearly a century, what hope of success there can be for this tiny State of Cochin surrounded as she is by Travancore and British India both of which are still wet? We may pass a Prohibition Law and have the satisfaction of saying on paper that we have a dry Cochin; but really Cochin will still remain as wet as before, with this difference that the revenue which the State now derives from Excise and which is so absolutely necessary for the upkeep of the other nation-building Departments will go into the coffers of other States and into the hands of illicit producers. I am stating these facts only to point out the practical difficulties that lie ahead, if we close down all the liquor shops to-morrow, as some of the Hon'ble Members want the Government to do. For the success of any Prohibition Law it is not enough that educated men demand it. We must educate the masses, make them realise the evils of the drink habit and create in them a desire to give up that habit. Until such a change is brought about in the mentality of the people, no amount of legislation can do any appreciable good in such social matters. In the meanwhile by gradually raising the price of liquor on the one hand, and removing the facilities and temptations for drink on the other, we hope to reach a point of time when the price of liquor will be so prohibitive as to place the stuff beyond the reach of the poor, as Mrs. Naidu says, it is now in America though America reached that goal by a different route. The progress may be slow, but we think any drastic method will not in the present state of things have the desired effect. The matter has been fully considered by the Excise Committee and their report is pending final orders of the Government.

I shall close my observations by enumerating the measures we propose to adopt for 1105 in furtherance of our policy of gradual prohibition. The limit of private possession of arrack without a license is to be reduced from 6 drams to 4 drams. 6 arrack shops, 13 toddy shops and 2 taverns are proposed to be abolished.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Abolished from which centres?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—From the whole State. I do not exactly remember the centres.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is that due to agitation for prohibition in those localities?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—No.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is only for executive convenience.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—The matter of granting occasional licenses is being restricted as far as possible. In 1102 the number of temporary licenses was 66, in 1103, 47 and in 1104 only 36. As a matter of fact occasional licenses are granted only after I become fully satisfied of the necessity for the same and not otherwise. In the matter of location of shops much care is taken to see that the public is least inconvenienced. Orders have been issued to see that shops are located as far as possible a little removed from the roadside. Instances of inconvenience arising from the location of shops, whenever brought to notice, are speedily attended to, and the shops are invariably removed to unobjectionable places, in consultation with the local public. The preventive officers are being spurred on to greater activity in the matter of detection of crimes with a view to the consumption of illicit liquor being put a stop to, and with good result. Several cases of illicit distillation were recently detected in and around Ernakulam. And now comes news of a big haul from Cherayi. Seeing that the festival in the Palliport Church is to come off to-day, I had made arrangements with the preventive officers to keep a watch over the place. And as a result, the Inspector of Cochin, with the help of the Special Party, seized 39 gallons of illicit toddy arrack, with distilling implements from an Ezhuva house at Cherayi the day before yesterday. 6 or 7 jars full of liquor had been concealed under earth in one of the rooms. The strength of the liquor ranged between 15 UP and 20 UP, so that, if the same is reduced to the usual strength of issue, viz., 35 UP, the quantity seized will be more than 50 gallons. This incident also demonstrates the necessity for issuing special licenses on occasions of fairs and festivals, for, if we do not supply our licit liquor, people who gather on such occasions will get their drink from such illicit sources to the benefit of none and to the detriment of Sirkar revenue.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—That only shows the laxity of the Excise Department. They allow so much to be manufactured.

Mr. C. V. Antony. Whatever is possible under the existing circumstances is being done to minimise the drink evil.

I request that the grant may be passed.

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Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—May I know whether you are going to do any propaganda work in this direction?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Even in Madras they are not doing it. Why should we?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is it a sin to drink?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Opinions differ.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The Member for Trippunittura wants to know whether it is a sin to drink.

President.—Any information wanted? Otherwise we will take up the cut motions.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—You promised to give an information. The Member for Excise will be pleased to say in which place he is going to abolish shops.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—I am getting information on this: which shops are to be abolished, the localities where they are to be abolished next year.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How many? The locality or for that matter the Taluk?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Six arrack, 13 toddy shops and 2 taverns. As to the taverns, I might say, one is at Chittur and the other is at Cherayi.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is no demand for Chittur.

Motion No. 62.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,042 for establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—Motion No. 62. Mr. Warriar is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 63.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,042 for establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—63 stands in the name of Mr. C. J. Mathew.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, allow me to congratulate the Excise Member for the pains he seems to have taken to trace the origin of the drink evil from the days of Moses.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Even earlier.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—And even earlier. He also searches the pages of religious books to find out that all castes, Christians, Hindus, Mohamedans, all used to drink. And, therefore, he seems to say it is not easy to stamp out this evil altogether. Still he is making an attempt at it. He has ordered to reduce the power of the arrack, to reduce the number of toddy shops, to reduce the number of trees and also, if possible, to give effect to the spirit of the resolution of this House, to close the toddy shops before sunset and to remove them from the road

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fronts. In spite of all that he has been attempting to do (and would be doing), it is a stern fact that the revenue under this head has been increasing steadily. Well, there are a few in this House who believe that it is no sin to drink, while there are others who think that it is out of fashion that some speak on prohibition (*hear,hear*). Still another set there is who take pride in saying that, in America and other places, the attempt to stamp out this evil has not met with success. Sir, last year, if I remember right, the Hon'ble the Lady Member placed before us the picture of a miserable home where the husband or the father happens to come full drunk. People sitting in these luxurious seats may not realise the amount of misery in those poor homes. Men coming full drunk break the peace and the unity of the home. Sir, if that be so, and for the reason some of us do not feel the evil results as much as these villagers, is that a ground for saying that we should not try to stamp out drink altogether? In my opinion, Sir, it is high time we had discontinued collecting a penny of revenue from the custodian of alcohols. Rather, Sir, if we are wanting in funds, we should take to other methods. For instance, I do not think any reasonable or educated man or one in reasonable position in life would grudge another taxation if it comes to that as an absolute necessity for the maintenance of the Government. On the other hand, Sir, to stick on to this source of tainted revenue, "devil source" as I would call it, is the biggest sin that would be committed by any Government to-day. I do not like the Excise Member really believe that America has found it impossible to continue the policy of prohibition there. It is probably too early to try legislative prohibition here. Therefore, the next best thing, which has to be done, is propaganda work. The staff under the Excise Member as well as the Health Officer's staff can go round the villages and teach the people that evil effects will result from constant drinking. Let them teach how unhygienic and unhealhty it is for a man to drink toddy or arrack. When this propaganda work is carried home, the poor and ignorant man realises little by little that even for his own safety and advantage he ought not to drink. Now, Sir, there is no such propaganda work carried on amidst our uneducated masses. They foolishly believe that a little drink would do them some real good. The labourer honestly thinks that, if he does not drink after the toil of the day, he will not be fit to work the next day. Such foolish faith some people have in drink. If he is really made to understand that this drink would produce ill-health, sickness and misery in his home, sure, Sir, he will give up the bad habit. In this way

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then we can reach absolute prohibition without legislation. So I urge upon the Government to start propaganda work amidst the rural population at once so that people may get educated and on that account discourage drink altogether.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Sir, in seconding the motion, I am very glad to hear of a public pronouncement made on the floor of this House that the Government's policy is a policy of dryness, and the method adopted by the Government is maximum revenue from minimum consumption. Under the guise of this policy the Government is wielding a powerful engine to collect taxes and duties from the extremely poor section of the State. The revenue derived from this Department has risen from ten lakhs to 14 lakhs by which we understand that the first part of the policy has been rigorously enforced by the Department while on the other hand the minimum provided for consumption has not yet been adhered to.

President.—Is it a policy or a formula?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Whatever be the formula or the policy as you term it, if it is put into practice properly, we shall have attained the goal aimed at long ago. Now this same formula has been followed in British parts with great success. I would bring some statistics before the House showing that there is a real decrease in the consumption of liquor and also there is a real move towards temperance. For instance, in Madras in 1906-1907 there were 11,451 shops, in 1919-1920 there were only 6,107 shops whereas in 1923-1924 there were only 6,042 shops and the area in square mile for each shop was 12 in 1906, 23 in 1920 and 24 square miles in 1923-1924 whereas the population per squrae mile was 3,388 in 1906-1907, 6,996 in 1919-1920 and 7,004 in 1923-1924. Similarly we see in Bombay the original number of shops was in 1906, 2,514, in 1919-1920 it was 1,880 and in 1923-1924 it was only 1,631 whereas the area in square mile for each shop was 30 in 1906-1907, 40 in 1919-1920 and 48 in 1923-1924 and the population per square mile was 8,570 in 1919-1920 and 9,816 in 1923-1924. Now adopting the same policy we have observed in this State—it is quite possible to increase the area of each shop and also to limit the number of shops and also to have good propaganda work towards temperance. As a matter of fact, we find only a very limited number of shops reduced every year and also there is no limit for quantity of liquor provided in every shop. The policy has been followed in British parts with so much success that it is no exaggeration to say that in certain places there is only one shop to provide drinking for nearly two lakhs of people. This is done by an efficient staff employed by the Department, by minimising the number of shops licensed,

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and also minimising the hours of sale for each shop and reducing the quantity to be sold in every shop. Now there was an Excise Committee appointed in 1905—1906, and they submitted a report in which they recommended certain things. Even though they were adopted by our Government, they have not been strictly adhered to and enforced. Now the proposals of this Committee were the separation of toddy shops, secondly the limitation of the number of shops, thirdly the limitation of the hours of sale and fourthly the reduction of the strength of the intoxicants. Now most of them have been adopted, but it has not been practically put into force, so much so that no decrease in consumption is noticed in our State. All that is required to put into practice these recommendations is to employ an efficient staff, well educated, who are not prone to bribes or corruption as some of the minor officers in the Department are (*hear, hear*), and to employ good Aminadars who will better the interests of the public. This has been pointed out to the Government several times, that educated people should be employed in this Department so as to produce an impression to the public that drink is a very dangerous evil. In spite of that we are getting inferior breed of officers who are only capable of making money and extorting money from the tappers to enrich the Government and to make themselves rich. Therefore, my request is to appoint men of character and education in the Department.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, I congratulate the Member for Excise for his very learned speech in which he has displayed a great deal of historical research. He spoke about the origin of drink and how it existed in Vedic times, but I am very anxious to know from the Hon'ble Member whether he has discovered who was manufacturing these things in those olden days.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—People who were living then.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—For one thing I should be sorry that the drink evil, whether you call it evil or virtue, is to be stamped out soon from our midst and my reason is this. I know of no other institution which is so very effective for removing the caste barrier between man and man for which we are trying our level best. In a drinking party there is absolutely no distinction of caste or creed. All eat and drink perhaps from the same vessels.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Your own experience ?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—You must know that I do not drink. Not exactly out of my experience. It is, say, my observation. So, to those who are interested in bringing about uniformity of caste and other levelling processes, I should think there is nothing so very effective as a drinking party. But with all that, and

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with the pecuniary loss it may create for those who are dealing in drinks, I am of opinion that we ought to stop it and attain prohibition. I say this drinking ought to be stopped even though it will cause some inconvenience or even loss of money. In this attempt, I am not so very diffident as the Hon'ble Member for Excise, and I am very much sorry to hear him saying that he does not believe in total prohibition as the ultimate goal. At the same time, however, he is advocating a policy for reduction in the number of shops.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—I said that the ultimate goal will be prohibition.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Is it so? I am glad to hear that, but I find very great reluctance on the part of the Government whenever the Government is approached to do something which is likely to affect their revenue. There is always a great reluctance. As has been said on several occasions, this is the most unholy money. It is also tainted with its sins, to whatever purpose you make use of it. The sooner we do away with this income, the better it will be. My submission is that it will bring about much more happiness for people, and in spite of all that may be said against the prohibition party, I am a firm believer in the success of the campaign. Wherever this policy was firmly followed, I believe propaganda in the direction of temperance and prohibition was successful. In so far as the community which I have the honour to represent is concerned, what little we have been doing has been every effective. And I think that in other communities as well propaganda will be really effective. After all that has been said against it, I still say that poor people do erroneously believe, as has been pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi, that a little drink after the day's heavy toil is wholesome to their health. And there are many who honestly say that the drink evil has ruined them. Sir, alcohol in whatever form is a poison. This is a scientific truth. I suppose even the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer will bear testimony to this statement, but I am sorry to find that he is not present. Therefore, Sir, if you want to better the condition of our country and if you want happy and peaceful homes, I request the Government to move towards temperance and prohibition—it may not perhaps be possible to do away with it in a day or two, but they should expedite their progress. I can find only a very slow movement towards temperance and prohibition if there is any at all. I can understand that there is a large revenue derived out of it, and it is not possible for the Government to do away with it. But as a matter of fact, all these years the revenue under this head has been increasing. I think that the Member for Excise will agree with me that during the last year it has grown up by one lakh.

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President.—Over a lakh of rupees.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir, it is over a lakh of rupees. I am unable to think that we are marching towards prohibition. At the time of auction those who take part in it are actually in a sort of madness.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They will be induced by officers to bid at a higher rate.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—You put the bait and quietly let the people go to rack and ruin.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—In certain cases they do not come forward at all.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Perhaps the locality may be that there are no drunkards. I heard the Hon'ble Member for Excise saying that about 100 gallons of illicit arrack was recovered from an Ezhuva house at Cherai and I ask him who is responsible for that. Is it that poor man? I say the Government are in a way responsible for that sort of thing. Because they allowed illicit practice to go on and allowed them to manufacture tons of illicit arrack. Whenever cases aredetected exemplary punishment should be meted out to them. I say that your executive must be efficient and more vigilant. Exemplary punishments should be meted out to offenders. Therefore, my request is that, in order that we may save people from the drink evil and for the betterment of the poorer classes and especially of the Ezhuva community which I have the privilege of representing, an efficient propaganda work started by the Government will be very effective. I request the Government to start propaganda work for prohibition. Either the Government may do it themselves; or there are several institutions which are carrying on this work and it is enough if the Government accede to their wishes to remove the drink evil once for all.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—ഞാൻ ഇന്നത്തെ യോഗത്തിനു വന്നപ്പോൾ "എക്സൈസ്" നെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നും തന്നെ പറയാതെ പോകണമെന്നാണ് വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നത്. എന്നാൽ എക്സൈസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ പ്രസംഗം കേട്ടപ്പോൾ, അതിൽകൂടി ചെലുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള ചില അവാസ്തവപ്രസ്താവങ്ങളും ദുർന്യായങ്ങളും പൊതുജനങ്ങളെ തെറ്റിദ്ധരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതാണെന്നു മനസ്സിലായി. അവയുടെ സത്യാവസ്ഥ എന്താണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നു തോന്നുകയാൽ മാത്രമാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ സംസാരിക്കുന്നതിനായി തുടങ്ങുന്നത്. "എക്സൈസ്" നെപ്പറ്റി ഈ സഭയിൽ ഒന്നും സംസാരിക്കാതെ പോയാൽകൊള്ളാമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചതിന്റെ കാരണം, ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി നിയമ സഭയിൽ പലപ്രാവശ്യം ഇതിനുമുമ്പു സംസാരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അങ്ങനെ

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യുള്ള ചില സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നു ചിലവാശ
ത്തങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യുകയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഈവകവാശത്തങ്ങൾ
ഗവൺമെന്റു ഇതുവരെ നിറവേറ്റിയിട്ടില്ല. നിയമസഭയിൽവെ
ച്ചു ചെയ്യുന്ന വാശത്തങ്ങൾ പരിപാലിക്കാതെയിരുന്നാൽ, പി
ന്നീടു വാശത്തങ്ങൾ കൂട്ടുന്നതിനായി പരിശ്രമിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു
എന്താണഫലം?

മുമ്പിലത്തെ "എക്സ്സൈസമെമ്പർ" മദ്യപാനം അനുവ
ദിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു വരവിനുവേണ്ടിയല്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതിപ്പോൾ, അ
തു വാസ്തവമായ ഒരു സംഗതിതന്നെയാണെന്നെയെന്നു തുടുവപ്പേ
രൂർ മെമ്പർ പ്രത്യേകം ബോദ്ധിച്ചു. അതിനു മറുപടിയായി ഗവ
ൺമെന്റിനു പണം കൂട്ടുന്നതിനായിട്ടല്ല മദ്യഷാപ്പുകൾ അനുവദി
ച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു വീണ്ടും ഗവൺമെന്റുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നു മറുപടികിട്ടി.
എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവൺമെന്റുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നുപറയുന്നതു, മദ്യ
ഷാപ്പുകൾ നിർത്തികളഞ്ഞാൽ, ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ വരുമാനത്തിൽ പ
ങ്കു ആദായം കുറഞ്ഞുപോകുന്നതാണെന്നും അതിനാൽ മദ്യഷാപ്പു
കളെല്ലാം പെട്ടെന്നു നിറുത്തികളയുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലെന്നു
മാണു് ഇതിൽനിന്നു എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതു. മദ്യപാനനി
രോധനത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഗവൺമെന്റു ഇതുവരെ ഗാഢമായി ആലോ
ചിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നാണു. നിയമ സഭയിൽ വരുമ്പോൾ താനും ഇതുപ
റഞ്ഞുപോകണമെന്നുമാത്രമെയുള്ളു. മദ്യപാന നിരോധനം പ്രാ
യോഗികമാക്കുന്നതിനു എന്തെല്ലാം ആവശ്യമാണെന്നും
അതു എങ്ങിനെ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തേണമെന്നും മറ്റുമുള്ള കാര്യ
ങ്ങൾ ആലോചിച്ചതിനുശേഷം നിയമസഭയിൽവെച്ചു തീർച്ചയാ
യ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നതായിരിക്കും അത്യുത്തമം.

ഞാൻ താല്ക്കാലിക മദ്യപാനഷാപ്പുകൾ നിറുത്തുന്നതിനെ
പ്പറ്റിബോദ്ധിച്ചപ്പോൾ പണാവശ്യത്തിനായിട്ടാണു അവ നടത്തു
ന്നതെന്നു എനിക്കുമറുപടി കിട്ടി. ഓരോ പ്രാവശ്യം ഓരോന്നു പ
റയുന്നതിനുപകരം, ഒന്നും പറയാതെയിരിക്കയാണു നല്ലത്. എ
ന്നാൽ വാശത്തലംഘനത്തിനും സ്ഥിരമായ അഭിപ്രായമില്ലാത്ത
തിനും ഗവൺമെന്റിനെ ആരും കുറ്റപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതല്ലല്ലൊ.

Prohibition അമേരിക്കയിൽ എങ്ങിനെ നടക്കുന്നു? അമേരിക്ക
യിൽനിന്നു മടങ്ങിവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു മെമ്പർ ഈ നിയമ സഭയിൽ
ഉള്ളപ്പോൾ, അമേരിക്കയെപ്പറ്റി അദ്ദേഹം പറയുന്നതു മുഴുവനും
വിശ്വസിക്കണമെന്നാണൊ ഗവൺമെന്റുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നു പറയുന്ന
തു? അമേരിക്ക സന്ദർശിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മെമ്പർ, ഗവൺമെന്റുമെമ്പർ അ
യിട്ടാണു ഈ സഭയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നതു. അദ്ദേഹം തന്റെ സ്ഥിതി
യും നിലയും അനുസരിച്ചു മറന്നു, ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമെന്നു
ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. അമേരിക്കയിൽ കുറെ കൊല്ലങ്ങൾക്കു മു
മ്പു പോയിക്കുറച്ചുസമയം ചിലവാക്കുന്നതിനു ഇടയായതുകൊ
ണ്ടു, അദ്ദേഹം അമേരിക്കയെപ്പറ്റി പറയുന്നതു മുഴുവനും ശരിയാ

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യിരിക്കണമെന്ന പറയുവാൻ ഞാൻഒരുക്കമില്ല. "Prohibition"നെ പറ്റി അനേഷിക്കുന്നതിനുകൂടിയല്ല അദ്ദേഹം അവിടെ പോയത. അമേരിക്കയിലുള്ള "Prohibition" നെപറ്റി പല മാന്യന്മാരും എഴുതിയിട്ടുള്ള പുസ്തകങ്ങളും ഞാൻ വായിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട. St. Nihal Singh എഴുതിയിട്ടുള്ള 'Dry America' എന്ന പുസ്തകം വായിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവർക്ക, അമേരിക്ക സന്ദർശിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള നമ്മുടെ മെമ്പർ പറയുന്നത മുഴുവനും വിശ്വസിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്ന തോന്നുന്നില്ല.

അമേരിക്കയെപ്പറ്റി ഒരാൾ അവിടെയും മറെറാരാൾ ഇവിടേയും നിന്നു ഓരോന്നുപറയുന്നതു വിശ്വസിക്കേണ്ടതാവശ്യമില്ല. അതിനെക്കാൾ നല്ലൊരുമാർഗ്ഗമുണ്ട". അവിടെയുള്ള "Constitution" നെപ്പറ്റിനല്ലപോലെഅറിയുന്നവർക്ക മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ കക്ഷിപിടിച്ച അഭിപ്രായം അറിയാതെതന്നെ സത്യാവസ്ഥഅറിയുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതാണ". അമേരിക്കയിൽ "Prohibition" നടപ്പിൽവന്നിട്ട കുറെകൊല്ലമായി. "Prohibition" നെപറ്റി ആരാജ്യത്തിലെ "Constitution" ലും ചേർത്തിട്ടുണ്ട". "Prohibition" അവിടെയുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു നല്ലതല്ലെന്നു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ, "Constitution"ലെ ആ ഭാഗം അമേരിക്കയിലെ ജനങ്ങൾമാറ്റിക്കളയുമായിരുന്നു; നമ്മുടെ ശവമ്മെണ്ടുപോലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശവമ്മേണ്ട അല്ല ആ രാജ്യത്തു. അവിടെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ശവമ്മെണ്ടാണ". അതിനാൽ അവിടെയുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്ക ഉപദ്രവകരമായ ഒരു നിയമം അവരുടെ "Constitution' ൽ നിലനിൽത്തികൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതല്ല.

യുദ്ധകാലത്തിനുമുമ്പുതന്നെ അമേരിക്കയിലെ പലരാജ്യങ്ങളിലും "Local option" നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അതിൽനിന്നുള്ള ഗുണങ്ങൾ കണ്ടറിഞ്ഞതിനുശേഷമാണ അവിടെ "Prohibition" കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനായി ജനങ്ങൾ തീരുമാനിച്ചത". ആ തീരുമാനം മാറുന്നതിനും അവർക്കും സാധിക്കുമെന്നറിയാമല്ലൊ. എന്നിട്ടും അവർ എന്തുകൊണ്ടു അങ്ങിനെചെയ്യുന്നില്ല? "Prohibition" മൂലമുള്ള ഗുണങ്ങൾ അറിഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെയായിരിക്കണം. അമേരിക്കാ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ "Constitution" നിശ്ചയമുള്ളവരോട "Prohibition" അവിടെ ദോഷകരമായിട്ടാണ കണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നുപറഞ്ഞാൽ വിശ്വസിക്കയില്ല. എക്സ്സൈസമെമ്പർ മറെറാരു ന്യായം പറയുന്നതു മദ്യപാനം പണ്ടു നടന്നിരുന്നുവെന്നാണ". പണ്ടു നടന്നിരുന്നതെല്ലാം ഇപ്പോഴും നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകേണമെന്നുണ്ടൊ? Slavery പണ്ടുകാലത്തു ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ലയൊ? അതു പിന്നീടു നിർത്തിയില്ലേ? ഇന്ത്യയിൽ മുമ്പു സതി ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ലയൊ? അതു നല്ലതല്ലെന്നു മനസ്സിലായപ്പോൾ അതു നിർത്തിയില്ലെ? ചീത്തയായിട്ടുള്ള സംഗതികൾ എല്ലാം നിർത്തണം.

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കള്ളച്ചാരായം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നവരെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണ് മറ്റൊരുന്യായം പറയുന്നതു്. അത് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ കുറ്റംതന്നെ വെളിപ്പെടുത്തി പറകയാണു്. ഒരു നല്ല നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുവാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നതു് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു അഭിമാനകരമല്ല. ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഗുണകരമായ നിയമങ്ങൾ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുന്നത ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ഒരു പ്രധാനജോലിയാണ്. അതുകൂടി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുനമ്മുടെഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു സാധിക്കയില്ലെന്നുപറഞ്ഞാൽ, പിന്നെ ആ തരം ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ മാറ്റിയതിനുശേഷംമാത്രം ഈ വക നല്ല നിയമങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി പറയുന്നതാണല്ലൊ നല്ലത. നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു "എക്സൈസ്" സംബന്ധിച്ചമദ്രാശി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റേയും തിരുവിതാംകൂർഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെയും നയത്തെയാണ് പിൻതുടരുന്നതെന്നു ഈ സഭയിൽ വെച്ചു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു പക്ഷത്തു് പലപ്പോഴും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ വാസ്തവത്തിൽ അങ്ങിനെയല്ല ചെയ്യുന്നത്. മദ്രാശി സംസ്ഥാനത്തു " Excise Advisory Committee ", " Excise Licensing Board " എന്നിങ്ങിനെ പല കമ്മറ്റികളും കാണുന്നുണ്ടു. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു അവയൊന്നുമില്ല. മദ്രാശി ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് "temperance propaganda" നടത്തുന്നതിനായി വലിയൊരു സംഖ്യ ചിലവാക്കുന്നതിനു തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇതൊന്നും നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു ചെയ്യുന്നില്ലെന്നു അറിയാമല്ലൊ.

മദ്രാസിൽ ഈ വർഷത്തിൽ propaganda work നു വളരെ പണം നീക്കിവെച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു ചങ്ങനാശ്ശേരിയിൽ 'Local option' തുടരുന്നതിനു തീരുമാനിച്ചുവല്ലൊ. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു Excise Committee യുടെ റിപ്പോർട്ടിന്റെ തീരുമാനമുണ്ടാകട്ടെ എന്നുപറഞ്ഞുനീട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നു. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുകയെന്നുള്ളതാണ് നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ നയം. എനിക്കു ഇനി പറവാനുള്ളതു എന്റെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളാം.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Sir, I take this opportunity of expressing my views on this subject, as there is a similar motion standing in my name.

The policy of the Government has been proclaimed in this Council repeatedly, a number of times, but I am very sorry to find that the Excise Member has struck a note of despair in saying that it is not possible to stamp out this drink evil for any time to come. It appears to me that the reasons given by him, *viz.*, that the drink evil is not of recent origin, and that every country and every nation is subject to this evil, do not give room for despair. Now, does it require any elaborate argument to come to the conclusion that the drink habit is an

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evil? It is a drain on the economic condition of the poorer classes as well as injurious to the healthy condition of the people at large. With respect to the remedies suggested by this House, the Excise Member says that some of them had been practised with no avail. What I would say is that the Excise Member has not approached the question from the proper perspective. A person with no faith in a policy cannot be expected to do anything good. My submission is that a future programme of work has to be formulated by the Department to put an end to the drink evil and realise absolute prohibition at most in the course of 12 years. Next year our Government expects a lakh and 15 thousand more by way of revenue and Rs. 4,600 more is budgetted by way of expenditure for this Department. My humble submission is that this Department has no right to spend a pie more. Year after year the expenditure has to be cut down as much as possible unless it be that the additional expenditure incurred is for the purpose of doing work on temperance lines. The stopping of giving occasional licenses, decreasing the number of shops, and making the cost of drink prohibitive are surely bound to some extent to stamp out this evil; but no country which has tried to enforce prohibition has succeeded in doing so by degrees. In America they put a stop to it suddenly. They passed a resolution and acted upon it. Similarly there is no reason why we should not succeed if we do like that. I understand that the policy of local option has been adopted successfully in Chenganasseri and is working very well. The real difficulty appears to have been the want of faith on the part of the Government in any measure towards working this policy successfully. I would, therefore, support this motion.

President.—Can you enlighten us, Mr. Matthai, while we are on this question of propaganda work, how far we have been successful?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, Sir; in connection with the Depressed Classes we find that the propaganda work has been to a certain extent effective. (*Hear, hear.*) We have a certain number of adult classes and the hours of instruction are generally from 7 or half-past 7 to 9 or 10 and we instruct these people to bathe, to come clean, and we give them useful instruction on temperance, etc.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That is Night School.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, when I go to these Night Schools I enquire and I find that the adults who attend these schools are generally free from drink. Partly it is due to the fact that it is usually at this time that they go to the taverns.

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After their day's work when they feel tired and want something to refresh them, the tavern is near at hand and very tempting, so that they stop there and have some enjoyment. But those who attend these Night Schools spend the time in the schools instead of in the tavern, and I think in this way these adult schools are having a very beneficial influence on these poor people. Yesterday, for instance, I was in a Depressed Class centre; there is a Night School there, and I was enquiring about the Pulayas who were attending that school and I was told that in the great majority of cases they were free from drink, especially the younger people. It is only in the case of the habituals that there is some difficulty. I have no hesitation in saying that through our adult schools we are overcoming this evil of drink so far as the Depressed Classes are concerned.

When we call a gathering of these people we make it a point of telling them about the evils of drink and we try to impress these things on them. When we ask them, the older people say, "well, Sir, we have gone too far, but all the same we realise it is a bad thing, and so we are anxious that our young people should not take to this habit. That is why we bring them to your school". Often I have heard such statements made by the older people.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What is the exact propaganda work done there? Is it towards temperance or prohibition?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, not to go into toddy shops. That is what we tell them. They don't understand temperance, prohibition, and all that.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is it fair to the shop auctioners?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—They may sue for damages.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I think, if the Member for Nellayi were here, he would have told us of some of his experiences. I was visiting a school for the Depressed Classes at a place called Mathikunnu which is under his special patronage. The Member was telling me he used to do a sort of passive propaganda, *i. e.*, about night-fall he would go and stand in front of the tavern. He used to do nothing but simply go and stand there.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Probably the Pulayas would not approach because he is a Brahmin.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Whatever that may be, he succeeded in preventing the people from going into the tavern and the result was the tavern got abolished.

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President.– Mr. Verghese, in your absence an appeal was made regarding the effect of alcohol in the human system, that is, whether it is good or bad.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—From an absolutely scientific point of view I should say alcohol is neither a food nor is it necessary for man. (*Hear, hear.*)

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It is poison administered.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It is poison at a certain stage. All that I am prepared to say is that the crystallised result of scientific investigation on the subject and of experience is that alcohol is not a food and is not necessary as a food. There are people who say that this is not necessary even as a medicine. But in that respect, consistent with the example that I am myself setting in my medical practice, I will not say that it has no virtue as a medicine.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—If substitutes are given, Sir?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There are substitutes everywhere.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Have you tried any?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is beside the point. That is the scientific result regarding alcohol. There is difference between alcohol and the juice of the grapes. The juice of the grape has been regarded as healthful from time immemorial. In fact even the earliest agriculturist in the line of viniculture,—

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Are you trying to give a lecture? Then I will have to ask certain questions. The juice of the grape is good, but if it is kept under fermentation, it becomes alcohol. There is no necessity for lecture here now.

President.—Alcohol is not necessary for man. That is all what we want to know.

The Excise Superintendent may reply.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—I have only to offer a very few remarks. As for the propaganda work I think we are doing something in the schools even now especially in the lower classes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Are you doing any propaganda work in your Department?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—An attempt has been just begun in Madras, and even there, there is a wide difference of opinion on that point.

President.—What is the particular method adopted?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—That is a very cumbersome method. There is a Central Committee and there are District Committees also appointed.

President.—Is it the lecturing system?

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Mr. C. V. Antony.—Distribution of pamphlets and leaflets, lectures, magic lantern lectures, and so on.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What is the ideall?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—To preach temperance.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The evils of drink are exhibited in the magic lantern slides. They give lectures also.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—They have not yet begun work in Madras; they have not passed the stage of discussion. Some say it is a mere waste of money. We shall wait and see how it works there. We will also know the sense of this House.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—The Director says that it is very efficacious. So we can start doing it here in our rural parts.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—In the schools we have introduced it, I think.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—That has concern only to those who go to school. Why not you have propaganda work among the rural people?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Have you magic lantern exhibitions in the schools, Sir?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, in most of our big schools they use it for temperance purposes also.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—We shall wait and see how the scheme works in Madras, and we shall also know the sense of this House. They are only discussing the matter there. Before we spend money on propaganda work we must have some assurance that some useful purpose will thereby be served.

Then about the policy of maximum revenue and minimum consumption, we cannot say from the figures given that there has been no reduction in consumption. There will be illicit consumption going on. The figures supplied by the Department do not represent the total consumption in Cochin. According to statistics, the consumption in 1104 will be about 45,000 gallons. That is the consumption of licit liquor alone. There will be consumption of illicit liquor over and above that. Suppose it is 20,000 gallons. Then the actual consumption this year will be 65,000 gallons. Now, if we reduce the consumption of illicit liquor by the greater activity of the preventive staff, there will be a sligt increase in the consumption of licit liquor, but that is no increase at all.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Does the Hon'ble Member admit that his Department is so very inefficient?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Not that. Suppose we reduce the consumption of illicit liquor by 5,000 gallons by the work of the preventive staff. That will be replaced to some extent by

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an increase in the consumption of licit liquor. Take that increase to be 3,000 gallons. Then the consumption next year will be 48,000 gallons of licit liquor and 15,000 gallons of illicit liquor or 63,000 gallons in all, as against 65,000 gallons in the current year. Thus, though our statistics may show a slight increase, that does not mean that there has been really an increase in consumption.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether the illicit liquor manufactured by the people is as good as licit liquor?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—It is better, they say.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What do you do with the liquor when you detect such cases?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—It is destroyed.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Why not take it to the Government Distillery?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—That will be allowing people to sell illicit liquor. Because when it is taken to the Distillery, it will have to be issued to the shop-keepers.

And then about local option, rationing, etc., all these have been tried in Bombay but did not work satisfactorily. That is all I have to say.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—In the light of the expression of opinon in this House, I withdraw.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 64.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,042 for establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—No. 64, Mr. K. T. Mathew.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I tabled this motion to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity for removing all restrictions with reference to the tapping of trees for sweet toddy. The Hon'ble Member for Excise said in the last Council that we were following the Excise policy of the Madras Government. In the Madras Presidency there is no restriction in the number of trees to be tapped by a tapper for sweet toddy. Likewise we should also have no restriction.

In the last Council when I moved for the abolition of license fee, the Member for Excise opposed the motion, but in spite of his opposition the Government accepted the motion. This was a real encouragement to the sweet toddy tappers. As a result of this concession, the number of trees for tapping for sweettoddy increased largely and this fact is referred to in *the Administration Report.* If further encouragement be given, the number of trees will further increase.

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It is said that jaggery is better than sugar. Jaggery is cheaper than sugar. Jaggery making, therefore, deserves all encouragement. This industry if properly encouraged will prove to be a very useful and paying one and will find employment for many people. It is, therefore, the duty of our Government to remove all restrictions imposed upon sweet toddy tappers.

I shall now refer to one or two restrictions. I understand that a tapper will not be allowed to tap more than ten trees. This restriction should be abolished. I hope the Hon'ble Member will abolish this restriction without further delay. Second is that, if a tapper who had licence only to tap for sweet toddy is punished for tapping for fermented toddy, he will never thereafter be allowed to tap for sweet toddy.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—A man who is tapping for fermented toddy will not be allowed to tap for sweet toddy.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—A man who had permission only to tap for sweet toddy if found tapping for fermented toddy and if he is punished, he will not be allowed to tap again.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—There is nothing like that. After some time if he improves he will be allowed.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—What is the approximate time?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—That depends upon his character.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How do you know his character, if you do not allow him to tap again?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—We do not fix any particular period.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Sir; I may add one word to this. Now, although there is no fee fixed for the license of jaggery toddy, still permission is necessary. An application has to be put in and a license has to be obtained which has become a matter of very great difficulty. Though there is practically no gain to the Government, the parties are put to great difficulties.

President.—They don't get this permission at all.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—They never get in time and sometimes never. The Government will kindly consider this matter and do away with this permission. If it is necessary for the Excise Department to know who are all tapping, an information may be given by the person who taps jaggery toddy and he may begin to tap. If any offence is detected, of course he may be punished. As a matter of fact, on account of propaganda and other various things, there are several people who do not want to tap sour toddy, but their means of livelihood will be lost if they do not tap something, and they are prepared to tap for jaggery toddy. But they never get this permission to do so. There are certain restrictions with regard to localities also. If hundred persons apply, only very few persons, say, 25 of them,

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will be given. This is an industry which has to be encouraged, and it has no baneful effect. I request the Government that all people who apply may be given. And the necessity for obtaining licenses may be dispensed with and for the information of the Department they may be asked to give that information. As a matter of fact, Government is not gaining anything now but I know the tappers are put to a lot of trouble and loss.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There are certain formalities, Sir. Then only they will get permission.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Only an application is necessary and we grant licenses. The application is to enable the Department to make an enquiry about the conduct of the applicant; whether he had been previously convicted and if so, what has been his conduct since then. That is all. This is with regard to new applicants. Any man who had a license the previous year is given a renewal as a matter of course. The number of licenses granted has gone up from 23 thousand and odd last year to 34 thousand and odd this year. There is no delay at all. The petition has to go to the Inspector and he has to make an enquiry.

President.—How many days will it take ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—At the most 15 days.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—What is the harm for the Government to allow such tappers to tap before an enquiry? It is prejudging to think that once a man has been convicted he will not improve.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—All those who have been convicted are in the list of the Aminadars.

Mr. C. V. Antony—With all these restrictions, 770 licenses had to be cancelled this year for misconduct.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—There is no objection to cancel the licenses of those who misbehave.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Even in that case licenses may be cancelled for a definite period. Now the practice is to take away his livelihood.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—After some time if he improves, it will be granted again.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Are you sure ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Yes. That is my information.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p.m. when the Deputy President presided.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 65.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,448 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

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Deputy President.—No. 65. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I have tabled this motion to inquire whether they would have any objection to reduce the quantity of arrack distilled. They themselves distil arrack and distribute.

Deputy President.—They don't disagree that it is distilled by themselves.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Why not they reduce the quantity if they have really any belief in the policy that they have proposed ? I wish to know whether there is any objection.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—That is the same. The quantity that is reduced will be made good by illicit traffic.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—This arrack is only 30 years old.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—There were other kinds of arrack.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Which they say is not so very bad. And with regard to what the Director of Public Instruction has been pleased to say here, I do not agree. I do not wish to keep it open day and night. I had tried to keep my men at work late in the night but it had no effect in lessening the drink. As soon as they go home they have a supply ready. Unless we try to see that they do not sell anywhere, we cannot stop. With these words, I withdraw my motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave.

Motions Nos. 66—70.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,448 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.— *Do do*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,344 for Temporary Establishment by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.— *Do do*

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,000 for Travelling Allowance by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—The Members are absent.

Hence these were considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 71.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,88,375 for amount to be voted in Excise.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 71.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I don't move.

Hence it was considered withdrawn.

Motions Nos. 72 to 74.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,88,375 for amount to be voted in Excise.*

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Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Rs. 4,600.*

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—The Members are absent.

Hence these motions were considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 75.

Mr K. Ayyappan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—*Motion No. 65, Mr. K. Ayyappan.*

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—രാവിലെ എക്സൈസിനെ പറ്റി എന്തെല്ലാം പറഞ്ഞു എന്നെനിക്കറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. എങ്കിലും പ്രൊഹിബിഷൻ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിൽ ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് പ്രയത്നിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു കാണിപ്പാനാണു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതൊക്കെത്തന്നെയാണിവിടെ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എങ്കിലും പറഞ്ഞേക്കാം. ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് ഈ നയം സ്വീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽതന്നെ ഇതു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുവാൻ മാർഗ്ഗം ഇപ്പോഴെ കാണെണ്ടതാണു്. എക്സൈസ് നികുതിക്കു നൂനത വരുന്നതിനെ പരിഹരിപ്പാൻ മറെറാ വല്ല മാർഗ്ഗവും ഉറപ്പിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാപമെല്ലാം വെറുതെ. ഇതെങ്ങിനെ സാധിപ്പാൻ പോകുന്നുവെന്നുള്ള ഒരു കാര്യപരിപാടി വേണം. മേലാൽ പ്രൊഹിബിഷനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു മദ്യപാന പ്രസക്തന്മാരും മദ്യ വ്യവസായികളും പറയുന്ന പൊളിഞ്ഞ ന്യായങ്ങളും പറയാതിരുന്നാൽ കൊള്ളാം. ഉത്സവസമയങ്ങളിൽ ഷാപ്പുകൾ കൊടുക്കരുതെന്നു പലതവണ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടും ഫലമൊന്നുമില്ല.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതൊക്കെ ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഏതായാലും ഈ കാര്യം ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടു് ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ വെച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാം. ഇതുയും പറഞ്ഞു ഇതിനെ ഞാൻ withdraw ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 76.

Mr. E. Ekkanda Warriar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,88,375 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 76. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 77.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Rs. 100.*

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Deputy President.—Motion No. 77.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motions Nos. 78 to 80.

Mr. A. K. Kunhi Moideen.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,88,375 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.— *Do do*

Deputy President.—Motions Nos. 78 to 80. The Members are absent.

Hence these motions were considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 81.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,03,600 under Demand No. VI by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 81, Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.— Sir, I raise this token motion for the purpose of calling attention to the fact that in spite of all that we have been stating in this House for the last four years our policy has not changed.

Deputy President.—Our policy is the same. It is prohibition.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Our policy has not changed. You have always been telling us 'prohibition is our goal'. We have always been practising what we now practise—putting the shops into auction and getting as much money as we can. We are also preaching and they have always been doing what they have been preaching. And so we are going on in that happy-go-lucky fashion. What I wish to point out is, if drink is an evil, as the Hon'ble Member for Government has rightly put, then I say, it is time to eradicate the evil. If drink is good, why make revenue out of it? If drink cannot be stopped at all, why do you want to make it a source of revenue for you ?. If you say that drink will exist to the end of time and it began from the beginning of time from Moses downwards,..

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Earlier.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Then submit to the inevitable. Why are you taking so much money out of the poor people is my question. If you take the Cochin population, it is a million or 10 lakhs roughly and more than half the population are women. Is it your case that all the women want to drink? A portion of it will be children. Is it your case that they also want to drink? Then what is the number of people who want to drink? It will be only the adult population. And which of the adult population are drinking and contributing revenue ?

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You will find that excepting the high class drink, the other class drink is consumed by the veritable poor people. You are taking a revenue of 19 lakhs nearly 20 lakhs. That is Rs. 6 you are taking from apoor man in Cochin which I consider is absolutely cruel.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Rs. 6 a year.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Rs. 7 is the only taxation per head. You are taking Rs. 6 by way of this Excise revenue in addition to the revenue that is contributed.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Three pies a day !

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is an iniquitous revenue and we do not want our Government to take this iniquitous revenue to carry on the equitable needs. It has been well pointed out that you are taking the tainted money and putting it into other branches of administration and tainting that administration as well. Well, I say, if you want to continue drink and if you want to say that drink is an inevitable thing, let us have free drink in this country.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Free ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Without taxation.

Why should you want to have a revenue out of it ? At once the cat is out of the bag. Let us have free drink. A free drinking country will not be a drunkard country. I shall tell you the difference between the drink in the olden days and drink now-a-days. Please understand that the Bible did not ask you to drink. The Bible allowed you to do as freely as you liked. But it was incumbent to give drink to the man who was bitter of his life, to the condemned man, so that he may not know what is going to happen. In such cases drink was administered by law. In other cases it allowed you to be as free as you liked. The most sober-minded people in the world are the Jews. They are a drinking people and they are allowed to drink freely if they want with the result that nobody drinks.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are you for or against ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am for prohibition, because that is the only way now-a-days. You can enforce anything. Discipline of a nation is in the hands of the Government, and if a Government fails to discipline the people, what shall I say about their duty ? It is for them to enforce the law, and so we shall not allow this drink to continue like this. If, on the other hand, you think it is a rotten evil, make it free.

Deputy President.—Remove all restrictions.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Remove all restrictions of every kind possible. I will tell you that in France there is no restriction, in England it has free drink. In Pondicherry surrounded by

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Madras Presidency where high revenue is collected you can get a bottle of wine for a few annas.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Not free.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—In France it is freely flowing. Why do you want this revenue? So your only object is to find revenue. I think that, if there are suggestions for the Government to make this revenue, Government will be quite prepared to abolish this Department. If that is so, it is time that the Government should use their brains and make and substitute other kinds of revenue by giving more vitality to the people than by taking away the vitality of the people.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—They are having substitutes in America.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—കള്ളുഷാപ്പുകളിൽ നിയമപ്രകാരം ഒരു ദിവസത്തെ കള്ള് പിറ്റെ ദിവസത്തേക്കു വെയ്ക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ല. എന്നാൽ മിക്ക ദിവസവും കള്ള് കൂട്ടി കൂട്ടി വെയ്ക്കുന്നത സാധാരണയാണ. അതുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഉപദ്രവും അധികമായിത്തീന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—അതൊക്കെഞങ്ങൾ അനേഷിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—കുറച്ചുകൂടി മനസ്സുവെച്ചു അനേഷിക്കണമെന്നാണ പറയുന്നത്. പിന്നെ വൃക്ഷം അനുവദിക്കുന്നത് അമിനാദാരന്മാരാണ്. അതിൽ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാർ കൈ ഇടുന്നതിനു തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ ജോലി ആക്കാണെന്നുവെച്ചാൻ അയാൾക്കുതന്നെ കൊടുക്കണം. Stamp defalcation എന്നൊരു കേസ്സു വളരെ കാലം നമ്മുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയെ ആകഷ്ിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണല്ലോ. ഇപ്പോഴാണ അതിനൊരു തീരുമാനം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നത്. മുമ്പിലത്തെ എക്സൈസ് മെമ്പർ അതിനെപറ്റി ഒരു നോട്ടിട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടത്രെ.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ആയാളെ ശിക്ഷിച്ചു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—മുമ്പിലത്തെ സൂപ്രഡെണ്ടു് റെക്കമൻണ്ടു് ചെയ്തിരുന്നപോലെയാണൊ?

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—Recommendation ദിവാനയ്ക്കും, ദിവാൻ തീർച്ചയാക്കുക.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—Recommendation എന്താണെന്നു പറയാമൊ?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I wish to bring to the notice of the Excise Superintendent that the cocoanut shell that is used to measure out liquor is getting smaller and smaller in size. Of course it is being diluted more and more.

Deputy President.—Gradual prohibition.

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Dr. A. R. Menon.—More water is added. The fellow who goes last gets more water. Now for the complaint there is some solution seeing a good quantity—never mind the quality. The quality has deteriorated and the quantity also. Therefore, it is better. I am serious. I am not joking. A number of complaints came from your own place, Ollur, a deputation consisting of five. They want some sort of seal or some such thing to be attached to this measure.

Mr. C. V. Antony.—I am looking into the matter.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എനിക്കൊരു വാക്കു പറവാനുണ്ട്. ചക്കര കള്ള ചെത്തുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ,—

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.— അതൊക്കെ പറഞ്ഞു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—കള്ളുഷാപ്പു റൊട്ടിൽനിന്ന നീക്കിവെയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു റെസല്യൂഷ്യൻ പാസ്സായി. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിനെന്താ വിരോധം?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി ആൻറണി.—40 yards എന്നാണ റെസല്യൂഷ്യൻ. 40 yards വീതിയുള്ള സ്ഥലം കിട്ടാൻ പ്രയാസം. മാറിയാൽ അടുത്ത സ്ഥലം അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പള്ളി. സ്ഥലമുള്ള ദിക്കുകളിൽ മാറാൻ വിരോധമില്ല.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—സ്ഥലമുള്ള ദിക്കുകളിൽ മാറാൻ വിരോധമില്ലെന്നാണ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ഷാപ്പു ലേലം വിളിച്ചിട്ടാണൊ പണം ഇത്ര കൂട്ടി കിട്ടിയതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ലേല വിളിച്ചിട്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—അപ്പോൾ ഇങ്ങിനെ കൂട്ടി കൂട്ടി വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നാണൊ വിചാരം? Propaganda ഒരു വിധത്തിൽ ശരിക്കു നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ലേലം വിളിയിൽ സംഖ്യ കൂട്ടുവാനുള്ള propaganda വളരെ ബലമായി നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതിൽനിന്നു ശരിയായ propaganda നടത്തുവാൻ ഭാവമില്ലെന്നു അറിയാം. ലേലം വിളിക്കുന്നവരുടെ അവസ്ഥ ഏറ്റവും ദയനീയവുമാണു്.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—ലേലം വിളിക്കാതിരിക്കരുതെ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—ലേലം വിളിക്കുമ്പോൾ അവർക്ക ഭ്രാന്താണു്. ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു് വിളിപ്പിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. എന്നാൽ വാസ്തവത്തിൽ സംഖ്യ കുറക്കുവാനാണു് ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതു. ഇതു് ടെണ്ടർ ആക്കിയാലെന്താ?

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—കൂടിക്കുന്നവർക്കു പണം ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കുക.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—പ്രോഹിബിഷനെപറ്റി എനിക്കു വിശ്വാസമില്ല. പ്രസംഗിച്ചു എന്നു വരുത്തിവെക്കുക എന്നു മാത്രമെയുള്ളു.

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മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—വിളിക്കുന്നവർ കണക്കനോക്കിയാണ വിളിക്കുന്നത്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—വിളിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇത്ര സംഖ്യ മതിയെന്ന പറഞ്ഞു നിത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ലേലം വിളിക്കുന്നതിനു മുമ്പ ഓരോ ഷാപ്പിലേക്ക ഇത്ര വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾ എന്ന നിശ്ചയമില്ലേ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ഉവ്വ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഇങ്ങിനെ കൂടുതൽ വിളിക്കുകയും കൂടുതൽ വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾ അനുവദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്താൽ എങ്ങിനെ മദ്യപാനം കുറയും? പ്രോഹിബിഷൻ ultimate goal ആക്കിയാൽ വൃക്ഷത്തിൻെറ എണ്ണം കുറക്കണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി ആൻറണി.—ചായം കുറക്കുന്നുണ്ട.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഒന്ന കുറച്ചൊന്ന കൂട്ടണമെന്ന പറയുന്നില്ല. ലേലം വിളിക്കുന്നവർ ഭ്രാന്തുകൊണ്ടു വളരെക്കൂട്ടി കൂട്ടി വിളിച്ച നശിക്കും. ചാരായം കുറഞ്ഞാൽ വെള്ളംകൂട്ടി വില്ക്കുന്നതും നല്ലതാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ചാരായം കുറഞ്ഞാൽ വെറെ ഇല്ലിസിറ്റ ചാരായം കിട്ടുവാൻ അവർ വഴിനോക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—അപ്പോൾ അതു അധികാരികൾ പിടിച്ചുകൊള്ളും. കക്കുമെന്നൊ ചീത്തവഴിക്കു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കുമെന്നൊ വെച്ച് നല്ല വഴി നോക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നതു തെറ്റാണ്. വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ എണ്ണം കുറക്കണം. ഷാപ്പുകളുടെ എണ്ണം കുറക്കണം. പബ്ലിക്ക് സ്ഥലങ്ങളുടെ സമീപങ്ങളിൽ ഷാപ്പുകൾ പാടില്ലെന്ന വെക്കണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—ഫാം ഏരിയയിൽ കൂടുതൽ വൃക്ഷങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതല്ലെന്ന പറയാമൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് പി. കണ്ടുകുളം.—കള്ളുഷാപ്പുകൾ വഴിയിൽനിന്ന 8 മാര അകലെ വെക്കണമെന്ന വല്ലവരോടും ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് പി. കണ്ടുകുളം.—8 മാര അകലെ ആയി ഇപ്പോൾ വല്ല ഷാപ്പുകളും ഉണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ആവൊ.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് പി. കണ്ടുകുളം.—ഞാൻ ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ 8 മാര അകലെ മദ്യഷാപ്പുകൾ വെക്കാവു എന്ന ഒരു റെസല്യൂഷ്യൻ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു കള്ളുകുടി തീരെ നിറുത്തണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയല്ല. മദ്ധ്യാഭക്കാരായ യാത്രക്കാക്ക് വഴിനടന്നു പോകുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ മാത്രമാണ്. നാട്ടുപുറങ്ങളിൽ public nuisance എന്ന ഒന്ന ഇല്ലെന്ന തോന്നുന്നു. കള്ളുകുടി

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കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഷാപ്പിന്റെ മുൻവശത്തുള്ള മത്സ്യം വില്ക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലത്തു എല്ലാവരും കൂട്ടമായി. മയ്യാഴക്കാക്ക് (അന്തസ്സുള്ളവക്ക്) വഴി നടക്കേണ്ടുന്ന സൌകര്യത്തിനു ഒന്നുമാറി നില്ക്കു" എന്നു പറയുന്ന ഒറ വാക്കിനു അനവധി ശകാരമായി. വേണമെങ്കിൽ അടിയും. ആയതിനാൽ കച്ചവടക്കാക്കു" സൌകര്യമായി കുട്ടത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഷാപ്പുകൾ വഴികളിൽനിന്നു ദൂരെസ്ഥാപിക്കണം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഷാപ്പിനോടു അടുത്ത കിഴക്കും മത്സ്യവും കച്ചവടവും പാടില്ലെന്നു നിശ്ചയം ചെയ്യണം

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—അതിനു സൂപ്രഡെണ്ടിനു അധികാരം ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് പി. കുണ്ടുകുളം.—ഞാൻ സൂപ്രഡെണ്ടിനോടു പറയുന്നുമില്ല. ഞാൻ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനോടാണ്" പറയുന്നതു. അതിനു അധികാരമുള്ള ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നു ചെയ്യിക്കണം. പൊലീസ്സോ, ആരൊ.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—ഷാപ്പിന്റെ മുമ്പിൽ പൊക്കത്തിൽ വേലികെട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു".

മിസ്റ്റർ ഔസേപ്പ് പി. കുണ്ടുകുളം.—അപ്പോൾ വേലിയുടെ പുറമെയായി കച്ചവടം. വഴിതെല്ലും ഇല്ലാതെയുമായി. ആയതിനാൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ശ്രദ്ധവെക്കാഞ്ഞാൽ മയ്യാഴക്കാരായ യാത്രക്കാക്കു വളരെ വിഷമം നേരിടുന്നതാണു".

ഇനി സൂപ്രഡെണ്ടു ഷാപ്പുകൾ ലേലം വിളിക്കുവാൻ വരുന്നവരെ അധികസംഖ്യക്കു ലേലം വിളിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു പ്രേരിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ഒരു മാന്യമെമ്പർ ഇവിടെ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പഴത്തെ നമ്മുടെ എക്സ്യസു മെമ്പറിനെ പറ്റി അങ്ങിനെപറയുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. ലേലം വിളിക്കുവാൻ വരുന്നവരെ അധികസംഖ്യക്കു വിളിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അങ്ങിനെ ഭ്രാന്തുപിടിച്ചു വിളിക്കാതിരിപ്പാൻ ഉപദേശിക്കുകൂടി ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു. ആയതു പണം കെട്ടിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു" ഓർത്തിട്ടൊ, എന്തൊ, തിരിയുന്നില്ല. അതു പേടിച്ചാണു" ഇരുന്നിരുന്നതു.

മദ്യപാനം നിറുത്തുന്നതിനു നാട്ടുകാരും കൂടെ ശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ടു". ഞങ്ങളുടെ നാട്ടിൽ ഒരിക്കൽ ഒരാൾ ഒരു ഷാപ്പു" വിളിച്ചതു കരാറായപ്പോൾ ആ ആളെ രക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി, ആ ഷാപ്പു" ഞാൻ ഏറ്റെടുത്തു" ഫോ കു. ക്കു ഒരു രമ്പളക്കാരനെ വച്ചു മുഴുവൻ കള്ളു", മുക്കാൽ കള്ളു", അരക്കള്ളു", ഇങ്ങിനെ മൂന്നു പാത്രങ്ങളിലാക്കി കൊടുക്കുവാനാണു" ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്തതു". രമ്പളക്കാരനു" അപ്പുകാരം വില്ക്കുന്നതിൽ ധൈര്യക്കുറവു കണ്ടപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അവനോടു നീ പേടിക്കേണ്ട എത്രനല്ല കള്ളായാലും കുടി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ മാത്രയിൽതന്നെ ഒരു തുപ്പും, പൊട്ട, എന്നൊരു വാക്കും ആണു" പതിവു എന്നുപറഞ്ഞു അവനെ ധൈര്യപ്പെടുത്തി. ആദ്യം വരുന്ന

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വക്ക് നല്ല കള്ളിൽ നിന്നുകൊടുക്കുവാനും പിന്നെ രണ്ടാം പാത്രത്തിൽ നിന്നു ലഹരി അധികരിക്കും തോറും പാത്രങ്ങൾ മാറി മാറി ഒടുവിൽ പച്ച വെള്ളം തന്നെ കൊടുത്താലും വേണ്ടതില്ല എന്ന ഏർപ്പാട് ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്തതുകൊണ്ടു എന്റെ ഷാപ്പിൽ ആളുകളുടെ വരവു കുറഞ്ഞതുമില്ല. അമിതമായ ലഹരി ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നതുമില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു ഇങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നല്ല ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു. ലഹരിപദാർത്ഥങ്ങൾ കഴിക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം കുറക്കുന്നതിന്നു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ശ്രമിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നുള്ളു. ഈ എറണാകുളത്തു് ഗവൺമെണ്ടു വിചാരിച്ചാലും മദ്യപാനം തീരെ നിർത്തുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമോ എന്ന സംശയമാണു്. ഇവിടെ മിക്ക കാപ്പിക്കടകളും രാത്രികളിൽ ഷാപ്പുകളും പാരായ ഷാപ്പുകളും ആയി മാറുന്നതു കാണാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പൂക്കൻ.— എക്സയിസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നു നേരിട്ടു വല്ല പ്രോപ്പോസലുണ്ടോ നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.— മദ്രാസിൽ ഇവരെക്കൊണ്ടു വലിയ ഗുണം ഒന്നും ഇല്ലെന്നാണു് പറയുന്നതു. നോക്കണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പൂക്കൻ.— പ്രത്യേക സ്റ്റാപ്പു വേണമെന്നല്ല പറയുന്നതു. എക്സയിസ്സു് ആമീനാദ്ദാരന്മാർ തന്നെ പ്രോപ്പോസലുണ്ടാക്കി നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ആൻറണി.—അവർ നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടു്.

Deputy President.—Mr. Salem, you don't press?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Deputy President.—I shall put the demand to the votes.

Question proposed: '*That a grant of Rs. 2,88,375 under Demand No. VI be carried by the House*'.

Question put and agreed to.

8. VIII—Customs—Rs. 4,600.

Deputy President.—The next demand is 'Customs.'

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Sir, I beg to move for an allotment of Rs. 4,600 under 'Demand No. VIII—Customs.' I request that the House may be pleased to vote for the same.

Motions Nos. 82—85.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 4,600 for Customs.*

Mr. A. K. Kunhi Moideen.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 4600 under Demand No. VIII by Re. 1.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,600 for Customs by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,600 for Customs by Re. 1.*

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Deputy President.—All the Members in whose names the motions stand are absent.

Hence these motions were considered withdrawn.

Question proposed: *"That the grant of an allotment of Rs. 4,600 under Demand No. VIII—Customs be passed."*

Question put and agreed to.

9. XVIII—Education—Rs. 12,59,044.

Deputy President.—The next 'demand is 'Demand No. XVIII—Education.'

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, before moving the demand that stands in my name, I would like, with your permission, to make a few remarks on some of the criticisms made by Members in the course of the general discussion the other day. You know, Sir, I had not sufficient time that day to speak all that I wanted to speak then. Could a little more time have been given to me, I would have been able to meet almost all the criticisms that day itself. One of the points on which information was asked for was about the general policy of Government in regard to education. I find also that several of the cuts that are put down have a bearing on this question. Well, I may say for the information of the House that Government have adopted a definite policy as regards the different departments of education. In the first place there is mass education, and then secondary education, and lastly collegiate education. There is a certain amount of misapprehension, I am afraid, as regards the attitude of Government, and some of the hostile criticisms that are heard in this House, I think, could be removed by my trying to make the policy of Government clear as far as I can within the short time at my disposal. Government takes it as its primary duty to disseminate mass education. As regards mass education, the policy of Government is, 'spread your net as wide as you can. Bring in every human being who can claim that he is a subject of His Highness the Maharaja.' Every such man should be given the chance of obtaining elementary education, and, therefore, we cannot pause to consider whether we are adopting the method of imparting it in the most eficient manner possible and whether we are adopting means that are permanent and so on. The Government are, as it were, in a violent hurry. This is a very urgent matter, it is a great evil, this mass illiteracy, and we have got to overcome the evil within the shortest time possible. I am reminded of an observation that was made by the Member for Nellayi the other day. He spoke of Brahmana *sadya* and *sarvani*. So far as Government policy in regard to education is concerned, I should say that mass education is like *sarvani*; so that we cannot be very nice

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about the quality of things that we put before people, because our anxiety is that every one should get the elements of education, whereas it is different with secondary education. By the giver it is not intended for all. It is intended for those that have the brains and to those that have the means. Therefore, we have to draw some line of demarcation. We do not readily allow the opening of a secondary school in a particular locality, but in conformity with the policy of Government, when a requisition comes for an Elementary School, we do not very much hesitate. We do not make protracted enquiries but readily allow it, if there is scope and if it is within the provisions of the *Code*, because we want to see that elementary education is encouraged as far as possible. But in the case of schools for secondary education, as this House knows, there is already a feeling that our State is well supplied with such schools. At one time, say about 12 years ago, there was a feeling shared by Government as well as by the public that we were lacking in Secondary Schools. But of late, the feeling has been that the State is well supplied with Secondary Schools, so that what we have got to do is to improve the quality of our secondary education. That is the policy of the Government, and I am, as far as I can, trying to follow that policy. Several of these cuts that are put down, e. g., those in the name of the Member for Trippunittura and of other Members, relate to the recognition of new schools. I am trying to explain that those schools to which recognition has been refused come under the second category, *viz.*, of Secondary Schools. If you peruse the reports of the Department for the last two or three years, you will find this point adverted to. In multiplying Secondary Schools we have to consider the question of unemployment and the purely literary character of the education imparted in Secondrry Schools in general. These are bound up one with the other. Of course, as pointed out by Members and as we are prepared to admit, the kind of education that we impart now is capable of vast improvement, and, therefore, before we multiply schools of the kind that we have, we ought to see that the necessary deviation, the necessary bias, is given in the schools that we have already brought into existence. And there need be no anxiety on our part to increase schools purely of this literary type. When people, come to me for permission to open Secondary Schools, and say they want to do good to the country, I ask them if they cannot chalk out some other way, say, by starting institutions for the development of industries and so on, whereby they will be doing greater good. But it is very difficult to convince people. Our people are herdlike. If one does a thing and gets a certain amount of recognition, his neighbour also thinks he should do

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the same thing. Government, as you know, cannot satisfy people who are of that frame of mind.

And then it was represented here that Government was not doing as much as it should, in order to bring about the necessary changes in our system of education. Well, perhaps more than the other side of this House and more than the public at large, the Department has realised the great necessity for a change. And we are not after all entirely sleeping. Those of you, who have gone into our educational institutions and seen what is actually taking place, will give us the credit of a desire for improvement and will have seen signs of improvement in several directions. As regards Primary Schools, for instance, it was asked what is the good of giving primary education which only means a little of reading, writing and arithmetic. What good does that do? I think I heard one Member say that the depressed classes were being taught merely reading and writing. How could it improve the lot of the Pulaya? But Government take a different view. We consider that these elements of knowledge are absolutely necessary for all. Whether they are depressed classes, poor people or rich people, to every kind of human being this amount of education is a necessity. Whether you combine with it industrial education or not, by these elementary schools you are doing a certain amount of good. And what is the sort of industrial education that you can give in these schools? In Primary Schools, you have generally children from 5 to 11 or 12 years of age. Later on when they advance in age, and you put them into industrial schools they may benefit by the practical instruction. Then as regards secondary education, it was said that our Secondary Schools give only literary instruction and that they are only accentuating the problem of unemployment. We are alive to this aspect of education, and in order to remove this great evil we are trying to introduce into our Secondary Schools agricultural instruction, commercial instruction, industrial, and so on. There are several of our High Schools now situated in rural areas, where we are trying to combine agricultural education with the High School course. And then as regards industrial, we have started Industrial Schools of lower grade and of higher grade, and large numbers of pupils are attending these Industrial Schools. Even in High Schools boys are taking these industrial subjects as optionals. Also, a great deal was said about the unsuitability of the curriculum of our Girls' Schools. This matter also has not escaped our attention. We are introducing subjects suited for girls, such as music, fine arts, housekeeping and nursing, cookery, etc. And then we are paying

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special attention to physical culture. All these things were being introduced gradually, and this aspect of the question was brought to our notice by the Women Teachers' Association of the State, and that body is now engaged in preparing curricula of studies for our girls in conformity with local requirements. In fact, they have submitted a draft curriculum and I have now entrusted it to a special committee who are scrutinising the scheme that has been submitted by the Women Teachers' Association. So that, all that I want to say is that these things are not being ignored by us. And if we do not say much about these things, it is not because nothing is being done. And then about religious and moral education in schools, it was said that we were neglecting this aspect of education. It is very easy to criticise in that manner. But when you tackle the problem, there are various difficulties confronting you. In a country like ours where there are so many diverse creeds and communities, it is very difficult for Government to undertake religious instruction, but that does not mean that we are oblivious of the importance of religious instruction in schools. We are giving every facility for parents to impart religious instruction even in Sirkar Schools. There is not the same difficulty in Grants-in-aid Schools which are managed by private agencies. But even in Sirkar Schools we are offering facilities to the different communities. Very often the school building is placed at their disposal after school hours and during holidays and so on. They could arrange to give religious instruction in the schools. And there are very many schools where the local communities have taken advantage of this offer. In Mysore the Government is imparting religious instruction in schools, but it is doubtful if the experiment has proved successful. It is more of form than the real imparting of religious instruction. As regards moral education, it has found a definite place in our curriculum of studies, and we are impressing on our teachers the great importance of moral instruction. I think it is not neglected.

And then about the percentage of pupils under instruction, I think I heard one or two Members say that they were rather sceptical about the percentages given in the reports. I have explained once before in this House that there is some reason for this sceptical attitude. It depends upon the way in which we collect our statistics every year. When we draw up our report, we do not make a census of all the houses and children in the State. That sort of thing is impossible. What we do is to go by our Census Report. Our last census was in 1921, about 8 years ago. There is a certain population according to that census, and the recognised way is to take 15 per cent of that as the school-going population of the State. The school-going

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population means children between 5 and 11 years of age. But it might so happen that much more than 15 per cent of our population was attending school because it is not merely children from 5 to 11 that attend schools but older ones, and even young men and women up to 20 and 21 are sometimes seen attending School and college. Even children below 5 attend primary classes in the Training School and other schools, so that when you take the actual number of young people attending the school they may represent much more than the recognised school-going population of the State. If you take for instance Trichur, which is our most advanced locality in regard to education, if you take the census of Trichur and count the number of pupils attending school, you may find the number to be something like 125 per cent of the school-going population. That is because you find very few children between 5 and 11 who are not attending school except perhaps a few Pulaya children and so on. All the rest are attending school, and in addition a large number of older ones are attending schools and colleges so that the total may come to more than 125 per cent as I said. But that is not due to fabrication or anything like that. It is simply due to the system of calculation. I suppose that will satisfy the Members who have expressed sceptical views.

Deputy President.—You will go on like that. If you have got anything more to say, you can reply when the cuts are moved.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I have much more to say which I am afraid may not come up in the cut motions. I shall be very pleased, Sir, if you will allow me some more time. About the half-time system, as I have been repeatedly assuring this House, it is a measure of economy merely, and if you compare our schools with Elementary Schools in Malabar for instance, you will find we are more liberal in staffing than they are. They have a large number of schools which are called single teacher schools where one teacher teaches 3 and sometimes 4 classes. If you read the reports of the Madras Education Department, you will find that they are still trying to tackle this evil, that they are trying to get rid of the single-teacher system. We have no such schools. We have some schools where there may be 6 classes and only 5 teachers or 4 classes and only 3 teachers. We take care to see that no more than one pair of classes work half-time. What I want to say is that it is primarily a measure of economy. And then I think the Member for Nellai asked about depressed class education. Has it helped to reduce drink among depressed classes? I say it will certainly reduce drink. It is premature to say that depressed class edu-

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cation has notreduced drink. You must give us sufficient time, and when these young people who are now being taught in schools grow up, they will not be as bad drunkards as their fathers are to-day. They will abstain from it. And then the Anglo-Indian Member, I think, asked for free education for his community. Well, that is a matter regarding which I would make a strong recommendation to Government. They are similar to the Jewish community, who have got a school where free English education is given in primary classes. As in the case of the Jewish community the Anglo-Indian community should also be given free education in English Primary Schools, because Malayalam is not their mother tongue, but here I am only speaking for myself.

Deputy President.—I can't give you any more time.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I would like to move the demand that stands in my name which is only for Rs. 12,59,044.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—A very moderate sum.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—With the Chief Engineer you have got 3 lakhs.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is for engineering works, and he has the entire disposal of the amount. If you will give me leave, Sir, I will just mention one or two points.

Deputy President.—You may wait for the cut motions.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. K. T Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,114 for establishment by Re 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 1, Mr. K. T. Mathew.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—രണ്ടുമൂന്നു സംഗതികൾ എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ മെമ്പരുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ മാത്രമാണ് ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഒന്നാമതു മദ്രാസിൽ നമ്മുടെ കുട്ടികൾക്ക admission കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. ഇതിനെപറ്റി ഡയറക്ടർ ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഒന്നും പറയുന്നില്ല. രണ്ടാമതായി primary education കുറെക്കാലം കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഫലമില്ലാതായിപോകുന്നുണ്ടു. അതിനാൽ adult education-ൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം. മൂന്നാമതായി games fees മുഴുവനും ഈകാര്യത്തിനുതന്നെ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നറിവാൻ ഞാൻ ചോദ്യങ്ങളയച്ചിരുന്നു. അതിനുള്ള മറുപടി കിട്ടിയിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ എനിക്കു പറവാനുള്ളതു മുഴുവനും പറയുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കുമായിരുന്നു.

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബ് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—പണ്ടു മുഴുവനും പയോഗിച്ചിരുന്നില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ മുഴുവനും ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്.

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മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—ഓരോ സ്കൂളിലും പിരിക്കുന്നതു ആ സ്കൂളിൽതന്നെ ചിലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബ് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—പിരിയുന്ന സംഖ്യ treasury യിൽ അടക്കും. അവിടെ നിന്നു പണമെടുത്തു ചിലവാക്കും. ഇങ്ങിനെയാണു് നടക്കുന്നതു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—അതോടുകൂടി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും കുറച്ചു സംഖ്യ കൊടുത്താൽ വളരെ നല്ലതാണു്. കുട്ടികൾക്കു പലസുഖക്കേടുകളുമുണ്ടെന്നും അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസ്ഥിതി തീരെപോരെന്നും ഡാക്ടർമാർ സ്കൂളുകൾ പരിശോധിച്ചു റിപ്പോർട്ടുകളിൽ കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. പലതരം കളികൾ കുട്ടികളുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തിനു വളരെ നല്ലതാണു് അതിനാൽ ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണം.

നാലാമതായി, provident fund ന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കാനുണ്ടു. ഇതു എല്ലാ സ്കൂളുകളിലും തുടരുന്നതായാൽ വളരെ നല്ലതാണു്. അതിനാൽ അതു എല്ലാ സ്കൂളുകളിലും നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്.

അഞ്ചാമതായി, പഴഞ്ഞിയിലെ സ്കൂൾ കെട്ടിടം ഒന്നു നന്നാക്കിയാൽ കൊള്ളാം. അതു പെട്ടെന്നു വീണുപോകുന്നതിനിടയുണ്ടു്.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—About the provident fund, I may tell the House that the Finance Committee has recommended that it should be made compulsory, and we are waiting for Government's orders on the Special Finance Committee's report. About adult education, a few months ago we constituted a committee for revising our scheme of studies in Night Schools. Now the course is only for two years. As the Member said, two years' education does not suffice, and we are going to extend the course to 4 years, so that I think we should be able to give instruction of a much more satisfactory kind. And then about children lapsing into illiteracy about which the Member referred to British India and Cochin. Even here, it may so happen in some cases, but what you find in British India, and Northern India especially, is that children attend school for one or two years and then disappear. What they have picked up during this short period they forget, but if a child completes four years, I do not think there is any great danger of his forgetting all that he has learned and lapsing into illiteracy. In England, for instance, you will see they have now raised the schoolage to 15. That is they want to compel every child to attend school until she or he is 15 years. When our resources improve, we shall also try to raise our standard, and even now we are trying to improve conditions.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

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Motion No. 2.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,870 for establishment of Director and Senior Inspector by Rs. 10.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 2, Mr. C. J. Mathew.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—So far as the agricultural training is concerned, the Director has given us assurances of starting agricultural classes at Anappara when the College is shifted there. So far as engineering course is concerned, I am afraid, only wealthy students can afford to go and study at the Benares University. I would, therefore, like to know whether he proposes to take any step to ensure admission of our students either at Bombay or at Madras in the Engineering Colleges there. Seeing that the Harbour is shortly to be completed, any number of engineers would be required; only if our students got trained properly they can secure employments there. Again, in the matter of medical study, our students are greatly handicapped at Madras. They seldom get admission. "Some time back there were only few students going for admission. Now there are very many more and, therefore, we feel the difficulty". I don't believe a statement of the kind made by the Director of Public Instruction is perfectly correct. I remember when I was a student at Madras there were at least a dozen Cochin students in the Madras College in the first year class. Now there are only one or two. So there has been a change in their policy so far as the admission o Cochin students is concerned. The Director cannot dispute that. So, unless our State takes, some steps to ensure admission of our boys into the Medical College at Madras, where it has become practically difficult to get admission, we shall not get our men trained in medicine at all. That is a serious state of affairs. So, I request the Director to concert measures to secure sufficient accommodation there for at least half-a-dozen students from Cochin.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—So far as medicine is concerned, I do not know whether there is any difficulty.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is difficulty.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—At any rate some of our boys are getting admission into the Medical and Engineering Colleges. As regards a solution, we cannot afford to open Medical and Engineering Colleges here. We want our young men to be admitted into the best of these Technical Colleges outside. The trouble comes only when you want admission into the Madras Engineering College which is supposed to be one of the best Colleges of the kind in India. As a matter o fact, several of our young men go to Poona for Agriculture. I my-

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self had recommended some of our students to the Principal at Poona and most of them have got admission.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Cochinites who had their education in British even are not allowed admission.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—When I interviewed the Madras Director and told him that our students were experiencing difficulty in getting admission into the Engineering College, he said that, if the applications came through me, he would consider them. As regards a solution, we find that it is not possible to have our own Colleges for Engineering or Medicine, and so our students go to such Colleges as are open to them, and there are Colleges that will admit them. For instance, a friend of mine came to me who wanted his boy to be admitted into the Engineering College, Bangalore, and I gave him a recommendation letter and the boy could easily have got admission. But the Vice-Chancellor asked him to go to a better College, though there was no lack of room there.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Do you mean to say that that boy who went with your recommendation got it? Are you giving it to everybody?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Not all. If they come to me and I find them satisfactory, I could give them.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—If you negotiate with the authorities and see that a certain number of seats are reserved for our students, there will not be any difficulty.

Deputy President.—It is not possible at Madras.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I discussed the question of the reservation of seats with the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, and he said there were practical difficulties regarding the reservation of seats.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Suppose you make a substantial contribution.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I suggested even that, but I was told that reservation of seats was not possible because there were a large number of Indian States and that no Indian State had any seats reserved.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Suppose the Indian States start a College of their own?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, where shall we have the College?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—At Anappara.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Once there was a question of a Kerala University and we could not agree about the location of the University. If that had materialised, it would have been a solution of this problem.

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The difficulty is not that our students do not get admission but simply that they do not get admission in the particular College into which we should like them to be admitted.

There are ever so many Engineering Colleges and Agricultural Colleges; there are good, bad and indifferent ones, but you want the very best.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—And nearer home.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—And by joining certain Universities the prospects are brighter.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—You cannot ask a Government like Madras to exercise self-abnegation and refuse admission to their own boys and take our students. The British Director says"I have only seats for 60 students in the Engineering class and how can I give 12 seats to you". There was a time when Madras Districts were backward and indifferent and they did not send a sufficient number of students to these Colleges, whereas our boys rushed in.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—Imperial Government—നൊടു ചോദിച്ചാൽ മതി. Post Office-ലും മറ്റും നമ്മുടെ പണം എടുക്കുന്നില്ലെ?

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബു് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—എന്തു ചോദിക്കും?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—അവർ നടത്തുന്ന കോളെജിലെല്ലാം നമ്മുടെ കുട്ടികളെ എടുക്കേണമെന്നു.

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബു മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—എല്ലാം എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ എങ്ങിനെയാ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—മാക്സ് നോക്കി എടുക്കട്ടെ.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Mathematics first class students applied and they were refused.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—One first class boy got admission and another was refused.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Did you bring this matter to the notice of the Butler Committee?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not know. I shall be glad if I am given a chance.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—You say it is impossible for the State to do anything in that matter?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—If you are satisfied with nothing short of reserving seats in the Madras Engineering College, and if you are satisfied with nothing short of that like that Pears' Soap child, that is a very difficult thing.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

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Motion No. 3.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,870 for establishment of Director and Senior Inspector by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 3.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 4.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,746 for temporary establishment by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 4.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—This motion also I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 5.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 31,766 for Direction and Inspection by Rs. 5,000.*

Deputy President.—No. 5, Mr. Manjuran.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, I have sent in a substantial cut motion to cut 5,000 rupees. On reconsideration I would, with your permission, convert it into a cut of 50 rupees, but I am not prepared to go less because this is intended as a protest against a certain practice which was attempted to be justified by the Director of Public Instruction a few minutes ago but which, nevertheless, I firmly believe, is not in the best interests of education in this State. I am referring to the practice of refusing recognition to Lower Secondary Schools even when they are undertaken on a voluntary basis without expecting any grant from the Government. I have got three or four cases in my mind in which the refusal appeared to me to be arbitrary—I do not mean to say arbitrary in a reckless manner but arbitrary in the sense that it was not based upon any sound or valid reason, while those arbitrary refusals operated as very serious hardships. I remember 3 or 4 years ago, when Rao Bahadur P. Narayana Menon was the Diwan, a trouble arose in Kumbalanghi. There was a school at Pazhangad at the southern end and there is another school in the middle of Kumbalanghi called St. Peter's. The southern end people had a fairly flourishing school and they had money and building and they wanted to open a First Form and the Director of Public Instruction said "No. If you want your students to have First Form education you must send them to the central school." That was the reply. That is about a mile and a half away. There was a big tussle over the matter and eventually we had to persuade the Diwan to have a look at the place and to walk and see the roads connecting the two places, and fortunately, the Diwan, after having walked half the way said

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that he, a veteran in excellant physical condition, found it very difficult to walk the distance. He also expressed his definite opinion that it would be very difficult for students of 8 and 10 years to walk the distance either in summer or in monsoon times. When he had waded half the way through that sandy track, he said "You can have a college if you like for aught I know," and the Director of Public Instruction was present when he said that. That is one instance. Another instance was a couple of years ago—I do not want to mention the names of the schools just now ; the Director can easily understand what I refer to.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We must also understand. It is not the Director's monopoly.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I will take you into confidence presently. In that case again the distance was over two miles, and it appears the Director suspected that a certain school might lose 2 or 3 students and the strength may not come to the total and he refused. Eventually, the matter was, I believe, settled before the Diwan. Now, recently another instance was brought to me which, on top of all this, appeared to me about the limit. There is a school, a very flourishing school, so far as I know, in Karanchira. This Karanchira school is 19 furlongs, to be exact, from the Kattur school, that is, 2 miles and 3 furlongs. I used to walk 2 miles up to the Matriculation course and I remember to have thought that, if I could find any solution short of going to the school, I would welcome it. I was more than once on the point of decamping. It was such a nuisance to walk every day. It becomes monotonous. I was very much surprised to find that Karanchira school, which has a student population of 350, including backward and depressed class students over 150, where they have got 30 students for the First Form, the Education Department refused them recognition although they did not ask a pie grant. That appears to me to be the limit. I have been trying in the most detached manner to find out excuses to justify the Director's action, if possible. The only thing that was told me was that in the Kattur school in the First Form there were only 30 students. In the other school these 30 students were already on record and they were anticipating sanction. To say to that school, although they are public-spirited enough to run the First Form without a pie of grant, that recognition won't be given, because the Kattur people have only 30, the maximum being 35, appears to me to be very very queer policy.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—The minimum is 30.

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Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The Kattur people must be refused grant if they have not got sufficient students. The reason that I have put on my cut is the wrong policy of discouraging people, public-spirited people, from spending money from their own pockets and running schools as opposed to aiding inefficient schools which cannot find sufficient strength. Is this the justification? Suppose the school was not going on; what would the poor boys do? What is the average age of a First Form boy? I hope it would be 9 to 10 or between 10 and 12.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.— The average would be 12.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—My boy was in the First Form when he was 10. Anyhow assume that it is 12. Even then are they big enough for walking 2 miles? Is it not cruel to ask such a boy to wade through the *Punchapadams* and water-soaked roads during all times of the year? What is the justification? In every civilised country the Government press the people in matters of education. Here the people press the Government and the Government say 'no'. We have got some supposed principle. I respectfully submit it is the limit. I do not want to bring a substantial cut. After much mature deliberation I have taken away Rs. 4,950 but I cannot see my way to take off the balance of 50. The point is this. There are 350 students in that school. What is the hope of that school? All those 350 students, I dare say 99 per cent, will be living within one or two furlongs of that school. What is the hope of the great bulk of those students as regards lower secondary education? And after all, what is primary education as imparted now? Is a man who has received primary education even fit to be an Anchal peon in the State? The Director of Public Instruction freely promised the Commissioner of Police that he would find any number of School Finals for appointing as police men, which exalted job carries with it, I suppose, 10 rupees pay. What is the elementary education that we give—Vernacular education? If you proceed in this sort of policy, it will kill all initiative. I can understand if those people sought Government grant and you say you can't give. You may say there is a school already in the village. But they say "we shall run the school and pay from our pockets". There are 30 students in Form I and these little urchins cannot wade through the mud and the slush during the rains. Suppose they have to go to the Kattur school during the floods. What I mean to say is it is high time that the Government change over from that very stiff, and to me practically meaningless, policy, to a much more liberal one. I say, if in a place there are two

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schools one of which the proprietor is prepared to run without grant and the other only with grant, you ought to encourage that man who is prepared to run without grant and ask the other man to show cause why his grant should not be stopped. We can use public money very much better that way. There should be no favourite school. I am not speaking about personal favouritism. But the Director of Public Instruction or the other Heads of the Departments sometimes very rightly consider cases of certain schools and try to cherish and foster those schools; that is favouritism nevertheless. My submission is that schools must be considered from a detached point of view. In this particular case, you have refused recognition to the Karanchira school. The promoters of that school were public-spirited enough to say that they do not want grant. They had a strength of 30 students in the 1st Form. We also find that that school contains over 150 backward and depressed class students and that it is 19 furlongs away from the other school. When I was first told about the matter I thought it was a petty school, but subsequently I found it was a first class institution with 350 students. I have a host of other things to find fault with in connection with certain matters of policy of the Education Department, but even now I have taken up a lot of my time and I do not want to say anything more. I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House, and I hope the Government will be pleased to change this policy which appears to me to be very retrogressive and very much against modern democratic ideas and tendencies.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, in supporting the motion of my Hon'ble friend from Trippunittura, I appeal to the Director to extend that principle which he has applied in the case of primary education to lower secondary education also. I do not ask him to change the principle but only to extend the scope of the principle. It is this. The difficulties that are attendant upon having a school at very great distances have been amply demonstrated and we all can realise that. The two reasons that appear to me to have influenced the Director in granting recognition in such cases are, first the quality of the work done in the school, and secondly the injury that might be caused to an adjoining school. My respectful submission is that both these are not grounds upon which the principle of recognition is to be refused or accepted. If, as a matter of fact, the quality of work done in the school is taken to account and found deficient, then it will be time enough for the Director to refuse or to discontinue recognition. Therefore, at the initial stage, to trot out that as an argument for refusing recognition, I submit,

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is hardly fair. Secondly, there is the apprehended injury to a neighbouring school. Now, is that a consideration in according recognition, when, as a matter of fact, there is no request for a grant. As has been emphasised by my Hon'ble friend from Trippunittura, why should the apprehension of injury to another school weigh with the Government, when the injury, if there is any injury, which must necessarily be greater in the case of that school itself, is condoned or accepted to be borne by persons who are interested in seeing that school established? Of course, as regards the principle, the Director has logically defined the scope of the principle and allotted each kind of principle to each kind of education that is imparted in the State. But considering the hardship that will be caused to the young children, I respectfully request the Director to extend the principle to the lower secondary schools also considering the suffering and the labour and the injury to the school-going population.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—On a point of information. Did the Manager of the Veloor school apply for sanction to open a High School?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Well, there are two schools there and the Department was not fully convinced that there was necessity for a High School in a place like Veloor.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—May I know whether recognition has been granted to the school newly started by the Adoor Nayar Samajam?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Sir, I have tabled a cut motion to draw the attention of the Government to this retrogressive policy that has been followed by the Department. I do realise, Sir, that the Member for Education is really enthusiastic in the spread of mass education, and I am convinced of the difficulties in the way of allowing higher classes for secondary education, but to make it a rigid and fast rule and at the expense of certain people who are really interested in the advance of education is what I cannot understand. Where there is absolute necessity for a school with higher classes, I request that the Member for Education will be liberal enough to consider their case without any disparagement to the neighbouring institution. I humbly refer to the Karanchira school mentioned by the Member for Trippunittura, the students of which school generally flock from my own constituency, so that I have real interest also to support this motion. Now, it seems there is an order issued by the Department that any higher classes will be sanctioned at the beginning of the academical year, and it was on this express understanding that the Karanchira people went canvassing for

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students and they got 30 students for the First Form and supplied the necessary furniture for that school. It is due to their earnestness and enthusiasm that they got 30 students. Now, another order came from the Department saying that no class was sanctioned and the Manager was asked to disperse the class as soon as possible. This told very much on the Manager, and he put in a review petition stating that he is prepared even to supply 70 students for that school. In spite of that he was further asked to discontinue that class and also the Member for Education sent his Inspector under him to make enquiries of the progress of the class and it seems the report was not so very unsatisfactory to the Karanchira people. It seems in his opinion there is sufficient scope to have a First Form class conducted there.

To show the injustice and unfairness in rigidly following the above policy, I also refer to another school by which petitions have been launched to Government from 1101 onwards. I refer to the Peringottukara school. I appeal to the Member for Education to have a liberal view of that school the strength of which stands first in the State and which has got some 15 feeder-schools on the neighbouring side. The local people generally are Ezhuvas who are well-to-do and also the most progressive section of people in our State whose interest for education is extraordinary, especially for female education. These people are really put to difficulties by asking them to go to Kandassankadavu and Urakam which are situated 5 or 6 miles away from their locality. I may be permitted to read a few sentences from the petition they submitted to the Diwan in 1101.

"May we in this connection draw your kind attention to the fact that the above-mentioned nine villages containing a rural population of 24,279 including 2,862 Muslims are denied the facilities for higher education? There is at present only a Lower Secondary School at Peringottukara to serve the extensive area covered by these villages. The nearest High School is located at Kandassankadavu, lying far away on the British frontier. Boys and girls from the British side of the river are mostly benefited by it. Most of us cannot afford to send our children for education to distant places, and it is the girls of the locality who suffer most in this respect. The villages lying in close proximity to the said High School, *viz.*, Manakodi, Veluthore, Parakkad, Eravu, Manalur and Karamukku, contain only a total population of 18,017, including 16 Muslims in all. Thus it is clear that the Kandassankadavu High School cannot satisfactorily meet the educational requirements of our children.

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Apart from all these considerations the Peringottukara Lower Secondary School, as it stands, deserves to be raised to the standard of a High School. Centrally situated and in healthy surroundings, it has got a total strength of 500, of which 225 are Thiyyas and 50 Muslims".

There was another petition put in by these people in 1104 showing that there is sufficient scope for conducting a High School there and also that the Government has provided a new building which is at present occupied by the existing classes of the Lower Secondary School itself and that they are prepared to put up new buildings even at the expense of the local people without any grant for buildings from the Government. In these circumstances, I would request the Hon'ble Member for Education to relax his policy a little and grant a High School for the Peringottukara locality and also to meet the needs of the Karanchira people which two places will really prosper, considering the thick population of the locality.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, as my friend is going to make a finish on this subject, as he is going to press, I think it is better to explain our position, that is, the position I and a few others take. In a matter like this, every change that we propose to introduce must be viewed with great caution. Now, we have got a number of schools and the schools have got just sufficient strength. Now, supposing the proposal is accepted that whoever asks for recognition must be given recognition without grant, what will be the effect on those schools which are receiving grant to-day? Some of these schools will have to forego grant. They naturally built up an institution and ran it for a number of years, and they were enjoying this grant, and if, by any change introduced here, you deprive them of their grant, then I say it is a very vexatious case. I hold no brief for any locality, but I am only speaking on the general principle. The general principle and the only principle that ought to be followed and ought to be the guidance of the Department is whether there are sufficient schools within a reasonable distance. It is impossible to meet every demand on the ground that in one locality a boy has to walk 5 miles. No State can provide schools at convenient distances for the convenience of every scholar. There is no objection in introducing any number of schools provided you stop the Grant-in-aid Schools. Here the difficulty is by multiplying Schools those schools which are already receiving grant will have to forego the grant. What is your right to do it? Those people have been working the school for a number of years. Suppose A is conducting a school and B out of spite runs another school—

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—that is not the case in any of these schools; but I am taking an imaginary case. B wants to start another school just to ruin A. The Director of Public Instruction is bound to give recognition to anybody who asks for recognition once the principle is accepted. I don't think it is absolutely right nor is it feasible. The net result will be within 10 years all the schools will be ruined, and I am sure the Managers will be affected. You may take the opinion of the Managers, you may take a referendum if you like, and the majority of the Managers will protest against any such innovation. That is one reason.

There is also another reason. When all is said and done, the position of these school masters in the aided schools is not a very enviable one. And I assert boldly that they do not get what they are supposed to get. No amount of protestation will convince me otherwise. There is no need for a band of school masters to go about and tell lies. They have no pension, they have no provident fund and even the salary that is expected to be received by them is not given to them by the Managers of these schools. I boldly assert that. If anybody wants to take action, he may do so. Such being the case, this multiplicity of schools I am not at all in favour of. I used to hear a lot of public spirit and things like this and I find there is more than public spirit behind these things. I believe it is a business proposition, and you must consider it in that light. Therefore, if it is a business proposition, those who are already running schools—it may be at a profit—should not be made to suffer a loss. For these reasons, I think it would be much better to give the discretion to the Department or appoint a committee or do it in any other way you like. But you should not make a general principle that whoever asks for recognition should be given recognition, if it is without grant.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—There is no such proposition before the House. I did not say in every case it should be given. It is only for the abuse of that discretion.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That is only a matter of opinion. What I say is the discretion is now vested with the Director, and if you are not satisfied, you must make some other arrangement by which this could be controlled and managed. But simply to say that certain schools have been asking for recognition and have not been given is not a case for changing the present system which has worked out so satisfactorily. I also want to remind the House of one more fact. If you compare our statistics with the statistics of Malabar or for the matter of that any area in any Native State or British India,

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you will find that we have the largest number of schools within our State.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—We want to be better.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—They are more populated.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If you take as your data the percentage of population or area, even then I say this will stand first and foremost. That being the case, to propose any alteration, because there are one or two cases, to say that a sudden change should be made is not proper. No more can this House come and say to the Director "you should give this recognition because I am interested in this". You give the discretion to the Director, he uses the discretion, and if you are not satisfied, take away that discretion from him. The Director says, "I used the discretion and I am not willing to give recognition." What will be the procedure? If you suggest some means, it is all right. You simply say in such and such a case recognition ought to be given, and the Director thinks it ought not to be given. We are at a deadlock. How will you proceed further? You said on a general principle without grant recognition must be given.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I did not say that.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That is what I understood from the trend of your argument. At least that is my belief and my answer is for it.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I shall explain the attitude of the Government.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അന്ത്രുക്കൻ.—ഞാൻ മുമ്പെ എഴുന്നീറ്റതാണു്. എന്റെ കാര്യവും കൂടി കേൾക്കണം.

റാവു സാഹിബ്ബ് മിസ്റ്റർ സി. മത്തായി.—ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടു പറഞ്ഞാൽ.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അന്ത്രുക്കൻ.—ഞാനാണു മുമ്പ് എഴുന്നീറ്റത്. ഡിപ്പൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—അതിനൊന്നും സമയമുണ്ടായില്ല. എങ്ങിനെയായാലും ഇതിനു കഴിയില്ല.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—So many of them have been harping upon certain things which I can explain. Well, the main point was the arbitrary character of the Director's policy. I can say that the Director is simply carrying out the policy of Government, and the policy of Government has been based primarily on the views of this House, so that, when you blame the Director, you are blaming the Government for trying to carry out the views expressed in this House.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Will you kindly refer to the policy?

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Let me explain. 12 years ago the policy of Government was this. In the time of Diwan Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya people anywhere in the State, in any village, who wanted a Sirkar School, whether lower secondary or higher, had only to send in a petition and undertake the putting up of buildings. A large number of schools came into existence as a result of such requests from remote villages. Because the feeling then of the public as well as of Government was we would be the better if we had a larger number of Secondary Schools. The Government adopted that lenient, benevolent (or whatever you may call it) policy regarding secondary education and the result was so many petitions flowed in from different places.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Want of more education in the State.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I am afraid I do not understand that. Well, requests flowed in like these and in keeping with the attitude of the Government of the day, from wherever requests came in and buildings were put up by the people Sirkar Schools were started.

Mr. M.A. Chakko.—May I know how many were started?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I can give you more than a dozen. In Mala, Vynthala, and in Parappukara there was one, but now it has gone out. I can give you more than one dozen. So that was the attitude of the Government for some time.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—On a point of information, was there any change of policy during the time of Mr. P. Narayana Menon?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Gradual change there was. Please allow me to go on. And then after some time Government began to feel that we had a sufficient number of Sirkar Secondary Schools and then they said "we need not have any more Sirkar Schools, but if the people want, they may open new schools and we shall give them grant." That was the next policy. Several schools came into existence, with buildings of their own and managed by private bodies, but with Sirkar grant. A large number of Aided Schools came into existence like that, the Sirkar expenditure was going up, and there was the problem of unemployment of young men turned out by the Secondary schools. Hence the attitude of Government underwent a further change. The opening of new Secondary Schools either by Government or by aided agencies was discouraged.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—When was that change?

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I can't give the exact date. Well, I may say it was during Mr. Narayana Menon's time.

The Member for Trippunittura referred to some place where there were 2 Secondary Schools about 2 miles from each other What Government thought in those days was, if, for some reason or other, for educational advancement or for the satisfaction of some sentiment or whatever that might be, the people of a particular locality wanted a Secondary School and were ready to put up buildings and make all necessary arrangements, why not let them have their own school, if it meant no expenditure to Government. That was the attitude, and a number of schools sprung up in that way.

Now, in this House we have repeatedly heard it said "what is the use of multiplying Secondary Schools like this, why is it that you turn out young men in hundreds and tens of hundreds who do not know what to do with themselves"?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Was there any resolution or decision of the House?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It was repeatedly expressed in this House. The Member may refer to the Proceedings.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is there any decision?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I do not speak about any resolution or decision. I refer to the opinion expressed in this House which will be seen in the printed Proceedings of this House.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Can you kindly refer to the page?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I can refer to so many pages.

You will see this referred to in the *Administration Reports*, that is to say, this change of policy of Government you will find there stated in clear terms, so that, at the stage where we find ourselves now, the attitude of Government is, 'let us pause before we bring new Secondary Schools into existence'.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—When was that arrived at?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—All these questions I cannot answer.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is it the idea of a new administrator or the Director's idea? When was it?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Suppose I ask the date of the French Revolution?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I will say 1789.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is not the date; that is the year (*Laughter.*)

There are changes that have gradually taken place in the policy of Government and you cannot expect me to give the dates of these things. You can speak of the date of birth of a child but not of the birth of an idea.

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Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—But the initiation of the policy?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is all that is possible for me to say.

So that is the stage where we have now arrived, and I was a responsible Educational Officer during all these stages of the change of policy of Government. When Government were for freely giving Sirkar Secondary Schools I loyally carried it out, and then came the policy of aiding Secondary Schools and I loyally carried that out.

Deputy President.—It is time. We will continue to-morrow.

The House rose for the day at 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON.
Secretary to the Council.

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